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REAGAN RESORTS TO 'OUTRIGHT LYING' ON DISARMAMENT

PM141311 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

["R. Reagan's Statement" -- SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA headline]

[Text] Washington, 13 Jan (TASS) -- President Reagan held a meeting in the White House with M. Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons, and with M. Glittman and R. Lehman, members of the U.S. delegation. They are to leave soon for Geneva, where the latest rounds of Soviet-U.S. talks is to begin on 15 January.

It is quite clear from the President's statement published after the meeting that the U.S. side does not intend to renounce its course, which aims to intensify the arms race, revise the accords reached with the Soviet Union in Reykjavik, and sabotage efforts to reach ag eement on determined measures to limit nuclear weapons. He particularly stressed, among other things his determination to continue efforts toward space militarization by means of implementing the so-called "Star Wars" program, which, as is well known, pursues the aim of raising the arms race to a qualitatively new level and is the main obstacle on the road to nuclear disarmament. "It is absolutely essential that the implementation of the SDI program goes ahead as quickly as possible," he stressed.

The White House boss once again restored to disinformation and outright lying to justify his destructive position. On the one hand, he asserted that his administration "believes unwaveringly in the talks and accords great importance to achieving significant, fair, and effectively verifiable [poddayushchiyesya effektivnoy proverke] reductions in U.S. and Soviet nuclear arsenals."

On the other hand, Reagan grossly distorted the Soviet Union's position when he stated that since Reykjavik, Soviet actions in the cause of achieving advances in the field of arms control [kontrol nad vooruzheniyami] have allegedly "been in no way equitable" with U.S. efforts. He even tried to accuse the USSR of "drawing back" from accords reached at the Soviet-U.S. summit. Resorting to outright invention, the President cited as an instance of such "drawing back" the legitimate and fair demand advanced from the outset by the Soviet Union that the nuclear disarmament proposals it presented at Reykjavik be regarded as a single and indivisible package.

Having disregarded the far-reaching Soviet proposals for total nuclear disarmament by by the year 2000 -- which have won broad support throughout the world and take account of the interests of all sides, including the United States -- Reagan made much of U.S. "proposals" for Geneva, which look to sharp reductions in Soviet ballistic missiles while retaining the key strike elements in the U.S. nuclear arsenal, give the "green light" to pushing ahead with work for militarizing space, and give the United States the future "right to deploy the latest defense systems."

In connection with the "Iran-contras" scandal, a good deal of material has appeared in the U.S. press recently, providing documentary evidence that the Reagan administration has widescale recourse to disinformation, forgeries, and lies in its attempts to justify its shameful policies, its trampling of international law, and the laws of the United States itself. Reagan's statement on the Geneva talks goes to show that the White House has not learned its lesson. Falsification and lies continue to remain its main means of justifying its dangerous militaristic course, which promises vast profits for a handful of military-industrial high-ups, but which is in conflict with the fundamental interests of the peoples of the world as a whole.

BOGACHEV ON U.S. ARMS TALKS 'REPUTATION'

LD131643 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1557 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jan (TASS) -- Military affairs observer Vladimir Bogachev writes:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan is continuing to insist that any accord at the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space weapons must provide for the right of the United States to deploy [razvernut] at the end of 1996 a widescale space-based antimissile defense.

It emerges from his statement in connection with the next round of Soviet-U.S. negotiations which begin on 15 January that the President is in effect making the possiblity of any progress at this forum dependent upon the Soviet side agreeing to revoke the 1972 treaty on restricting antimissile defense systems In other words, the President is evidently fostering the hope of attaining military superiority over the Soviet Union by taking the race in strike weapons out into space. These plans are, despite all their illusory nature, extremely dangerous. The United States' attempts to justify militarization of space by the aspiration to make nuclear weapons "powerless and obsolete" just do not stand up to criticism.

The Soviet Union has not only "frozen" the number of its medium-range missiles, but has also reduced them in number, in particular dismantling the launch facilities for such missiles on the Kola Peninsula and a large proportion of such launch facilites in the rest of the territory of the Leningrad and Baltic Military Districts. During this period the United States has increased to 364 the number of U.S. medium-range misiles in Europe.

In 6 years, the Reagan administration has literally undertaken not a single practical measure to reduce its arsenal which it could itself describe as a gesture of good will.

The President frequently speaks of his intentions to remove the deadlock from progress at the Geneva negotiations in the future. One would like to hope for his sincerity. If Washington's intentions are genuinely serious, Washington should confirm it by practical deeds.

Against the background of the United States, practical activities in the military field, Reagan's flimsy phrasses about his desire for "achieving significant, fair and effectively verifiable [poddayushchiyesya effektivnoy proverke] reductions in U.S. and Soviet nuclear arsenals" are surprisingly reminiscent of his own rhetoric over "Irangate."

"Soviet actions undertaken to achieve advances in the field of arms control [kontrol nad vooruzheniyami]," the President said, "have been in no way equitable with our efforts." Here are a few points to illustrate that allegation made by Reagan.

For over 17 months now, the Soviet Union has been observing a unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. Over the same period the United States has carried out 24 nuclear tests.

The USSR has announced its intention not to exceed for the time being the limits set by the Soviet-U.S. SALT-II treaty. The United States has ostentatiously exceeded those limits by deploying further bombers with cruise missiles and MX-ICBM's with multiple warheads.

It is pointless to reduce weapons on the comparatively limited area of the earth's surface while at the same time opening the "green channel" for the deployment of even more dangerous systems for the destruction of people in the truly endless outer space. However, to date Washington has had no desire to be governed by common sense. In practice, the United States in the past 6 years has demonstrated not the slightest desire to halt the growth of offensive weapons or to take account of the provisions of the accords on their inflation.

The service record of the present U.S. Administration in the field of so-called arms control in the last 6 years places in doubt Washington's readiness to observe not only future agreements, but also existing treaties. From 1981 through 1987 it has not signed a single agreement on the genuine reduction of armed forces or armaments. Instead it has derailed the SALT-II treaty, the 1974 agreement on the limitation of the yield of underground nuclear tests, the 1976 agreement on nuclear blasts with peaceful objectives, and the 1972 provisional agreement, and has broken off a whole series of talks on disarmament. Washington's reputation as a partner in an agreement has fallen sharply.

ENVOY STATES 'IRANGATE' NO BARRIER TO ARMS TALKS

LD132235 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2156 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Lisbon, January 13 (TANJUG) -- The "Irangate" affair is not an obstacle in the way of resuming the U.S.-Soviet dialogue on disarmament, Soviet Lisbon Ambassador Valentin Vdovin told a news conference today.

Vdovin described "Irangate" as Washington's internal affair which Reagan's administration must resolve by itself.

The Soviet ambassador stated his government's readiness for "full dialogue on disarmament", but also the regret that the "U.S. side departed considerably from what was agreed in Reykjavik".

Asked how the Soviet Union would respond to the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), Ambassador Vdovin indicated that the U.S.S.R. was "currently elaborating its own initiative", which is, as he set out, to be cheaper and more efficient than the SDI.

The Soviet ambassador said that "an end to foreign interference in Afghanistan was desirable" so that "a process of calming, opened by the withdrawal of six Soviet regiments, could continue".

Vdovin stated his government's support to making the Balkans and northern Europe a nuclear-free zone, the elimination of chemical weapons from central Europe and making Mediterranean and the Pacific a zone of peace, and announced the Portuguese President Mario Soares and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher are to visit the Soviet Union this year.

NEWS CONFERENCE ON GENEVA DISARMAMENT TALKS

LD132120 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists on 13 January at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center devoted to the anniversary of the 15 January 1986 statement by Mikhail Sergeyivich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with Deputy Foreign Minister Petrovskiy; Academician Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Academician Sagdeyev, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute; Karpov, member of the Foreign Minitry Collegium and head of the Arms Limitation and Disarmament Directorate -- recorded]

[Exceprt] [passage omitted] [Jackson] Jackson, TIME magazine. The Soviet side has changed its team at the Geneva talks. Is this a change in the Soviet stance, a change in Soviet strategy at the talks, please? And can one count on a corresponding change in the U.S. team at the talks?

[Petrovskiy] In this connection I would like to say that our side is approaching the next, seventh, round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons with all seriousness and responsibility. Following the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik, the Soviet Union did everything possible to translate those agreements outlined in the Icelandic capital into the language of specific, diplomatic accords as quickly as possible. You know that on 7 November our delegation in Geneva submitted detailed proposals that precisely reflected and in full the essence of what was achieved in Reykjavik and, moreover, these proposals also took into account the stance of the U.S. side as announced by the U.S. delegation in Geneva immediately after Reykjavik and prior to the submission of the Soviet proposals. Then, at the beginning of December, there was a working meeting of representatives of the two delegations, but, unfortunately, this meeting also -- like the preceding round -- did not create a possibility for progress along the path of businesslike and constructive discussion of the Soviet proposals and of finding a possible resolution, based on them, in all aspects of the talks. Indeed, it should be stated directly that the cause of this is unambiguous: It is the unconstructive nature of the U.S. approach, the desire of the U.S. side to move away from the results of Reykjavik and to put the talks back onto the old, pre-Reykjavik lines.

During the process of preparing for the new round of talks, we have now been proceeding from the need to make this round a turning point for solving the set tasks of giving the talks additional stimulus and even greater dynamism, and targetting them on achieving a solution that will yield results.

In this connection, the Soviet side proposed to the U.S. side on 8 January that the leadership of the delegations be raised to the level of first deputy foreign ministers. This proposal proceeded from the idea of allowing the work of the delegations to take on a more active nature, to combine in the best possible form all the possibilities oepned up by both official and unofficial contacts, and to more widely open the doors for seeking and finding possible outcomes. Yesterday, the U.S. side reported the head of the U.S. delegation at these talks has been appointed adviser to the U.S. State Department and thus his status has been raised.

I am authorized to inform the correspondents present that the head of the Soviet delegation, First Deputy Foreign Minister Comrade Vorontsov, will leave to conduct the talks in Geneva. In this connection I would like to stress that we proceed from the position that the new level of the leadership of the delegations will make it possible to ensure a decisive move forward at these talks, and to achieve a position whereby the Reykjavik accords become a reality of international politics and immediate progress is begun toward a nuclear-free world.

[Andrianov] Andrianov, NOVOYE VREMYA. Viktor Pavlovich, how would you comment on the recent statements by Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the talks, and also by Weinberger on the question of the forthcoming round?

[Karpov] I would put it this way: Instead of concentrating attention on giving the next round, the seventh one, of the talks a concrete and businesslike direction, the head of the U.S. delegation Ambassador Kampelman in effect undertook a worldwide hook-up on the Worldnet program on 9 January which was calculated to start a sort of unhealthy discussion about the questions of the forthcoming round of talks. This discussion was aimed at disposing people in advance to believe that this round would not lead to any positive results.

The method used here was very simple but at the same time a method which, in my view, should not be used by the leader of the U.S. delegation -- to depict the USSR's position in a false light and to depict the United States' position in a rosy light. I can say with complete responsibility that the U.S. statements that allegedly the USSR should give replies to the proposals made by the U.S. and the road to accord would then be opened -- these statements do not accord with reality. The proposals put forward by the U.S. after Reykjavik do not in any way open the road to accord. On the contrary. Let us make a simple comparison:

In Reykjavik, President Reagan was prepared to undertake the obligation not to depart from the ABM Treaty for 10 years. A week later -- or a week and a half later to be more precise -- Ambassador Kampelman in Geneva said that the U.S. side could not give such an unconditional obligation on not departing from the treaty and that it could only discuss with the Soviet side the rules for departure from the ABM Treaty. On strategic offensive weapons, in Reykjavik the President agreed to liquidate all offensive strategic weapons over a period of 10 years. At the talks, the U.S. delegation was prepared only to discuss the liquidation of ballistic missiles. On medium-range missiles, there appears a complicating element in the form of the insistent U.S. demands that the United States should have the right to deploy [razvernut] medium-range missiles on its territory in such a way that they could strike the USSR.

If one talks of nuclear tests, a question which the Soviet side raises as the essential condition for moving on to a real reduction in nuclear weapons, in this regard the absence of a constructive atttitude by the U.S. is even more apparent.

[Question] Bulgarian News Agency. There has been yet another statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger that he intends also to strive to achieve a partial deployment [razvertyvaniye] of SDI. Would you please comment on this?

[Sagdeyev] I think the reply to this piece of news, a very unpleasant piece of news, is fairly unambiguous. It would be a direct violation -- and I would even say a direct violation -- of the existing treaty on limitation of antimissile defense, without any quibbles to the effect that new technology, so it goes, is posing difficult questions to the lawyers concerning interpretation of the treaty. In that case it would be a matter of making use of traditional technology -- earth-based missile interceptors, and I think this, apart from a crude violation of ABM, would mean another very important thing: It would fully disavow all the statements by the present administration, repeated statements, that the SDI program is a purely research program, and the question of installing [razmeshcheniye] can be decided only in agreement by both sides over a certain number of years.

[Unidentified speaker] There are also questions from TRYBUNA LUDU and from JUNGE WELT concerning prospects for a ban on chemical weapons.

[Petrovskiy] I think these questions are extremely timely, since we are today discussing the statement of 15 January; one of the main tasks formulated in that statement is the elimination, already this century, not only of nuclear weapons but also of chemical weapons. Precisely for this reason, the Soviet Union last year took energetic action to find a solution to the most complex problems at the multilateral talks in Geneva on banning chemical weapons. The proposals included in the development of the statement of 15 January allow us to move to accord in relation to matters of monitoring the nonproduction of chemical weapons, the destruction of stockpiles, and eradicating the production basis. Moreover, in relation to such a question -- which was fairly controversial over a long time -- as the question of inspections on request, the Soviet Union has announced its readiness to work on the basis of the proposal made in July this year by Great Britain. In a word, it is our conviction there is every real prerequisite for 1987 to become the year of concluding a convention on banning chemical weapons.

'Fresh Approaches' Noted

LD131313 Moscow TASS in English 1311 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- A press conference was held here today to mark the anniversary of Mikhail Gorbachev's January 15, 1986 statement advancing an array of initiatives directed at abolishing nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass annihilation by the turn of the century.

Only one year passed, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy told the press conference, but a new notion, the January 15 statement, became firmly established in the international political lexicon.

"This is not surprising. The statement rests on the system of universal human values oriented at human survival and progress of civilization in the nuclear and space age."

For the first time the new philosophy of security proved for all to be organically fused with a program, clearly scheduled in time, for concrete nuclear disarmament measures under strict control and with simultaneous reduction of all armaments to a level of reasonable sufficiency.

Such a qualitatively new approach was suggested by a state possessing a big potential, specifically in the nuclear and space fields.

The proposals put forward in Moscow not only embody the ideals of socialism but also incorporate mankind's humanistic dream of a world without nuclear weapons and violence, concrete ideas and considerations of different countries irrespective of their political and ideological orientation.

The world, which is brimful of arms, has been offered a real prospect of delivering itself the deadly burden, uprooting militarism from the thinking and practical actions of countries, and renouncing the "enemy image" in their relations. Neoglobalism is being counterpoised by a comprehensive system of reliable security and the right-is-might political mentality and ego-centricity by realism and a sense of responsibility in international affairs.

For the Soviet Union, the January 15 statement has marked the point of departure for practical activities in all avenues of limiting arms and promoting disarmament, first of all in the most important area -- that of nuclear and space weapons.

Mikhail Gorbachev's recent message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has encapsulated all proposals the Soviet Union has made at international forums and put on the table at bilateral and multilateral talks.

The Soviet-American summit in Reykjavik, at which the Soviet Union made a package of proposals, graphically illustrated that agreement on the abolition of nuclear weapons is practicable already today and not in some distant future.

Seeking cooperation with all states, the Soviet Union is ready to support any constructive proposals wherever they come from.

Although the past year failed to break the succession of years gripped by the accelerating arms race, it saw the emergence of new political thinking into practical fields.

Reykjavik, Stockholm, Vienna, New Delhi and Harare are not merely geographic points. They are landmarks in the assertion of a new mode of thinking and actions of states.

The Soviet Union is resolved to continue international dialogue and to look for new and fresh approaches.

We are entering now a period of talks. Multilateral talks opened in Geneva on January 12 on a ban on chemical weapons, on January 15 a new round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear space weapons is due to open, on January 22 -- talks of experts on an end to nuclear tests, on January 27 -- the Vienna meeting of representatives of the states-participants in the conference on European security and cooperation, and on January 29 -- a new round of Vienna talks on a force and arms cuts in central Europe. We are also looking forward to NATO's explicit reply to the Budapest proposal of the Warsaw Treaty member countries on a comprehensive and far-reaching cut in armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

In face of a nuclear threat, talks can no longer be like an exercise in rhetoric. They should be effective and produce results.

This fast-moving nuclear age dictates its law. While giving a minimum of time, it requires a maximum mobilization of human mind and will to prevent an all-destructive catastrophe, to ensure an improvement in the international situation and create the fundamentals of all-embracing security equal to all.

No New Summit Proposals

LD132058 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1839 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, January 13 (TANJUG) -- The Soviet Union did not propose a new Gorbachev-Reagan meeting, Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy said in Moscow today.

Petrovskiy said, however, that the Soviet Union is in favor of a summit if it were to produce concrete, positive results. At this moment, the possibilities opened at the Reykjavik summit should be implemented, Petrovskiy said. If the U.S. has the same stand, the scheduling of the summit will not pose a problem.

Petrovskiy also said that the Soviet Government has (?decided) that First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuriy Vorontsov head the Soviet delegation at the seventh round of talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva. The decision to upgrade the leadership of the Soviet team is explained by the desire to make the round of talks more efficient and effective.

Petrovskiy reiterated that the package of Soviet proposals in Reykjavik remains whole, and that it cannot be divided since it would lose meaning.

In other words, the new Soviet negotiating team at the Geneva talks will also insist on the four well-known aspects of the problem of disarmament, which General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev presented at his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Reykjavik. The four aspects are the complex solution to the problem of strategic missiles, medium-range missiles, a moratorium on nuclear tests, and anti-missile defense systems.

PART THREE OF BOVIN ARTICLE ON DISARMAMENT ISSUES

PM131237 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Third and final part of political observe A. Bovin article under the rubric "Soviet Disarmament Program: 1 Year On": "Security For All"]

[Text] The two previous article showed that there is no real, sensible alternative to the Soviet proposal to eliminate nuclear weapons and create a nuclear-free world.

Nuclear disarmament is a necessary but evidently insufficient condition for a general relaxation of international tension. Insufficient because it is hard to imagine prolonged, stable detente without ending all avenues of the arms race and reducing conventional types of weapons, particularly mass destruction weapons. Therefore, while emphasizing the elimination of nuclear weapons, renounce chemical weapons and dismantle the industrial base for their manufacture, reach agreement on concerted reductions of conventional arms and armed forces, and strengthen confidence-building measures and make them more effective.

Disarmament is a comprehensive, great, and complex problem. But in itself it is just a fragment, an important fragment of the all-embracing system of international security which the 27th CPSU Congress proposed creating. It not only proposed it but also formulated the principled foundations of such a system in the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres.

Precisely this approach to security makes it possible to better and more clearly understand that the danger of war -- for all its scale and significance -- must be viewed among the other dangers threatening mankind at the end of the 20th century. Different authors classify and formulate these dangers differently. If we disregard details and single out only what is most important and basic, then probably two groups of dangers, two groups of problems come to the fore. On the one hand, the tension is building up in relations between developed capitalist countries and developing countries, between the North and the South, as people sometimes say. On the other hand, the tension is growing between the "second" nature and the first nature, between the technosphere created by man and the biosphere which gave rise to man.

The share of these problems in world politics and world economics is huge and is continuing to grow. Imperialist policy and neocolonialism are preserving the dependent, deformed development of the "third world." The noose of foreign debt is being drawn tighter and tighter. Hundreds of millions of people in developing countries have been deprived of normal conditions of human existence, and tens of millions are dying of hunger. Economic and political instability multiplied by general backwardness creates favorable soil for coups d'etat, civil wars, and interstate conflicts.

Destruction of the natural environment is continuing on all continents. Tropical forests -- a most important source of atmospheric oxygen -- are being intensively destroyed. More and more poisonous substances are penetrating the air, the water, and the soil. Uncontrolled "chemnicalization" is changing the quality of agricultural produce. The upper, fertile layer of soil is being destroyed. The increase in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere threatens negative climatic changes. Although there is no lack of warnings of various kinds, the outlines of a universal ecological crisis are becoming increasingly clear.

Is it possible to cope with ecological difficulties? Is it possible to stimulate and make the development of the "third world" more balanced"? I believe it is still possible. If -- and this "if" is all-important -- if the funds being devoured by militarism are switched to peaceful needs. Here are a few comparisons suggested by W. Brandt:

-- the funds spent on arms in half a day would suffice to fund the WHO antimalaria program;
-- the cost of a modern tank is equal to an amount sufficient to improve the storage of 100,000 metric tons of rice and save at least 4,000 metric tons of rice from spoilage annually. That is a day's ration for 8 million people;
-- the same amount would suffice to build schools for 30,000 children;
-- an amount equal to the cost of one military aircraft could be used to equip 40,000 rural pharmacies;
-- expenditure on one new nuclear-powered submarine is equal to the spending on education in 23 developing countries with a total of 160 million school-age children.

Today militarism is not only the chief source of the danger of war but also the chief obstacle in the way of social progress and the chief force pushing mankind toward ecological disaster. Under these conditions the Soviet proposal to establish a nuclear-free world and for general and complete disarmament -- a proposal actively supported by many states -- serves as a precondition for a general radical improvement in the world situation -- politically, economically, and socially.

Reykjavik showed once again who and what is blocking the path to disarmament and the demilitarization of society. "In Reykjavik," the recent statement of the "Delhi Six" reads, "President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev were very close to reaching agreements which would have been of historic significance and scale. Those agreements could have paved the way to the total elimination of all nuclear weapons. It is a disappointing fact that, although the two leaders advanced far-reaching initiatives, they failed to reach agreements due to differences over the question of space systems." That diplomatic formulation could be translated in various ways into nondiplomatic language. We will take advantage of Senator G. Hart's translation: "The President missed an exceptional opportunity to conclude a tremendous arms control agreement and, as a result, drove us into a corner for the sake of defending a highly theoretical and extremely costly program which cannot prove its worth at least until the end of the century. I belive history will show that this was a mistake on his part."

History was not slow in doing so. The 4 November midterm elections, held under the direct impression of Reykjavik, showed the start of the erosion of Reaganism. The events which journalists designated "Irangate" shook the President's boat still more. "Ronald Reagan's long love affair with the public has lost its charm," the conservative commentators R. Evans and R. Novak write. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL foresees "colossal political consequences" of the scandal that has erupted. One of them is increasing contradictions and disagreements within the president's camp, in particular in connection with the inevitable replacement of the masters of the White House. Describing the activities of Senator R. Dole, one of the aspirants, another aspirant -- Congressman J. Kemp -- said this: Dole is "seeking to acquire popularity over the dead body of a popular President." Such is the intensity of passions.

As for the President himself, by all accounts he is behaving as though nothing has happened. The new military spending he has requested signifies a further whipping up of militarism. This means piling up more and more new obstacles on the only road leading to a secure future.

The more weapons, the more dangers. The more dangers, the less opportunity for survival. Elementary relationships. Universal threats. Everyone needs security. Therefore the course of events demands the buildup of universal protest and a broader social and class composition of antiwar and antinuclear movements. These movements have room for everyone -- "reds," "greens," and even "violets," if they turn up.

General human interest is gradually shaping up as an important factor in world politics. Although comprehending the dangers that exist in an uneven process, which takes place in different ways in the consciousness of different classes, social groups, and strata, this process is taking place, increasing elements of common sense in the policies of many nonsocialist countries.

This broadens and extends the sphere of possible agreements and facilitates the rapprochement of positions and the search for mutually acceptable compromise solutions.

The Soviet Union is open to cooperation with all who value peace who do so not in words but in deeds. Naturally, we defend our proposals. We are ready to argue then over and over again and to explain their logic. We are sure that the interests of universal security demand that we make our way through to a nuclear-free world, a world without weapons or wars.

We certainly do not regard our proposals as a set of ultimatum-like demands. We are prepared to examine any path and any proposal which brings a nuclear-free, nonviolent world closer. Very different options are possible here. From our viewpoint it is important not to lose sight of the goal -- general and complete disarmament -- and not to lose it altogether.

We understand the doubts of doubters. The proposed future is too much at variance with all the past, with all history. We ask people to think over our position and our logic. In the past the policy of strength prevailed. Its time is over, for its continuation leads to universal catastrophe. The time has come for a policy of reason. This alone promises salvation. Only a policy of reason, on which the Soviet proposals are based, unites realism, responsibility, and optimism.

REAGAN REACTS TO NUCLEAR TEST POLICY CRITICISM

LD132320 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1915 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Washington, 13 Jan (TASS) -- TASS Correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

President Reagan has sent a message to the U.S. Senate stating that the administration favors ratification of the 1974 Soviet-U.S. treaty on limiting underground tests of nuclear weapons, and the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear blasts for peaceful purposes. However, the President's message points out that the treaties can be ratified only on the condition that compliance with them will be subject to verification.

As is known, the pretext of the "impossibility of ensuring the requisite monitoring and verification" is the administration's favorite way of placing obstacles in the way of new accords and of U.S. observance of the Soviet-U.S. accords already achieved. An example of this is the U.S. refusal to abide by SALT II.

As UPI stresses, the President's message is timed for the start of the hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the question of nuclear tests. The President is, as it were, delivering a "preemptive strike," mindful of the growing criticism in Congress of the administration's reluctance to promote attainment of accord on a full nuclear test ban. It is typical that, simultaneously with the publication of the President's message to the Senate, an unnamed representative of the administration told AP that the U.S. intends to continue its test program, and will conduct about six nuclear explosions in the next 3 months.

DOBRYNIN, U.S. MOSCOW ENVOY VIEW GENEVA TALKS

LD140941 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0925 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jan (TASS) -- Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received Arthur Hartman, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, at his request. In the course of the conversation some question connected with the renewal of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva were examined.

VORONTSOV REPLACES KARPOV AS GENEVA NEGOTIATOR

LD131432 Moscow TASS in English 1431 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, the new head of the USSR delegation at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons, is leaving for Geneva for talks. An official statement to this effect has been made at a press conference today by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the new level of the delegation's leadership will make it possible to ensure a resolute change for the better at the talks, that the Reykjavik accords should become a reality of international politics, and ensure advancement without delay towards a non-nuclear word, he stressed.

DELEGATION ARRIVES AT GENEVA ARMS TALKS

LD141236 Moscow TASS in English 1233 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Geneva January 14 TASS -- The Soviet delegation has arrived here to take part in the seventh round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons scheduled to open on January 15. It is led by Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister.

FIRST ROUND OF PREPARATORY TALKS HELD IN GENEVA

LD141056 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0625 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Geneva, (TASS) -- The first round of Soviet-U.S. talks on setting up centers for reducing the nuclear danger has taken place here in accordance with the accord reached between the sides. The leader of the USSR delegation is A.A. Obukhov, ambassador at large. The delegation of the United States is headed by R. Perle, assistant secretary of defense, and R. Linhard, special assistant to the President.

The date at which the following round of talks will be held will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

TASS CITES KOMMUNIST ON PEACE, ASIAN STRATEGY

LD131654 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- The Soviet Union's policy in the Asian-Pacific region organically combines global and regional aspects of security, objectively takes into account both national interests and the interests of all states and peoples in that part of the world, the magazine KOMMUNIST writes in its first issue this year.

The Soviet Union proposes that wide-ranging practical measures in the political, military and economic spheres be effected on the scale of the whole region. Thorough preparations and the holding of an Asian forum to look jointly for constructive decisions should play a positive role in the political sphere.

The Soviet proposals do not stipulate the immediate convocation of the Asian forum but its stage-by-stage elaborate preparation with due account for the specifics of the situation in the region and without mechanically copying the Helsinki experience.

It is also suggested carrying out simultaneously with the preparations for the forum sweeping political measures designed to settle regional conflicts, to move off dead centre the matter of the Indian Ocean demilitarization, to achieve progress in setting up nuclear-free zones, to improve inter-state relations and thus to remove tension and consolidate the atmosphere of mutual trust and constructive cooperation.

It is not excluded that preparations for an Asian forum at summit level will call for, as is shown by the experience of other similar conferences, among them the Bandung and Helsinki ones, the holding of a series of meetings and working conferences involving representatives of interested states. It is highly important to display readiness for cooperation and begin an all-Asian process.

In the military sphere the Soviet Union proposes a set of measures which, once implemented, could drastically ease tensions and enhance the confidence of each state in its security. The case in point is primarily to put out seats of tension, erect a barrier to the spread and build-up of nuclear weapons, limit the activity of naval fleets and military presence in the Pacific and Indian Ocean regions in general, to discuss and hammer out confidence-building and other measures which would stipulate the non use of force.

The political and military moves to scale down tensions should be linked most closely with a variety of economc undertakings. The Soviet Government called upon all states in that part of the world to take steps to develop equitable, mutually beneficial and stable trade, economic, technological, scientific and cultural cooperation, the magazine writes.

IZVESTIYA ON ASIAN STATES' MOSCOW MEETING

PM131904 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Consultative Working Meeting"]

[Text] A consultative working meeting of deputy foreign ministers of the SRV, the PRK, the DPRK, and Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR], and the USSR was held in Moscow 8-9 January.

An extensive exchange of opinions on a broad range of international and regional problems took place during the meeting, which proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely mutual understanding.

Profound concern was expressed over the military-political situation in the world, which has become aggravated as a result of actions by the United States and other imperialist states which are continuing the arms race, opposing the termination of nuclear tests, and building up military preparations in different parts of the world. The representatives of the SRV, the PRK, the DPRK, the LPDR, and the MPR confirmed their support for the Soviet Union's constructive stance at the Reykjavik talks, which produced a real opportunity for freeing mankind from the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

The meeting confirmed the resolve of the participating countries to struggle, together with all socialist community states, against the nuclear danger and the arms race and for disarmament and the maintenance and consolidation of universal peace, primarily in the Asia and Pacific region, which is becoming increasingly important in world politics.

Emphasis was placed on the exceptionally great and long-term importance of the Soviet program outlined in Vladivostok for ensuring peace, security, and cooperation in the Asia and Pacific region. It was said the Delhi Declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free of nuclear weapons is a document of the new political thinking which is in line with the conditions of the nuclear and space age. The principles formulated in it offer Asian and Pacific countries a way to lasting and fair peace in Asia, and to the best possible solutions, suitable for everyone, to the complex problems of this vast part of the planet.

The participants in the meeting acclaimed the Soviet Union's decision to sign the protocols to the Treaty on a Nuclear-free Zone in the Southern Pacific (the Rarotonga Treaty).

They spoke in favor of the implementation of the DPRK's well known initiatives aimed at the withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, the peninsula's transformation into a nuclear-free zone, and the attainment of the country's peaceful democratic unification. Support was declared for the DPRK's new proposal to conduct military-political talks between the North and the South, and emphasis was placed on the impermissibility of perpetuating the country's split in any way, including by so-called "cross-recognition," "simultaneous admission to the United Nations," and other methods for creating a "two Koreas" situation.

The creation of an atmosphere of trust and security in the Asia and Pacific region would further the implementation of the MPR's proposal to conclude an international convention on nonaggression and nonuse of force in relations between Asian and Pacific states.

The complex situation prevailing in Southeast Asia dictates the imperative need to step up the quest for ways for the region's states themselves to solve the problems exisiting there on the basis of total respect for their sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity without outside interference in their internal affairs. These are the objectives pursued by the constructive proposals made by the Indochina countries and their line of developing a dialogue with ASEAN states in the interests of turning this region into a zone of lasting peace, stability, good neighborliness, and cooperation, of normalizing relations with their neighbors.

The meeting declared support for the DRA leadership's political course of creating conditions for the beginning of an open all-Afghan dialogue for the purpose of achieving national reconciliation.

The participants in the meeting spoke out in favor of eliminating all military bases existing in the Indian and Pacific Oceans and the prevention of the establishment of new bases, condemened attempts to build up a military presence in this part of the world, and called for the swiftest implementation of the UN declaration on the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

The participants in the meeting believe that the normalization and further development of relations between the PRC and socialist countries will have a positive effect on the improvement of the situation in the Asia and Pacific region and on the strengthening of peace and security in that region of the world.

It was noted with gratification that the Nonaligned Movement, resolutely standing against war and the arms race and against the solution of international problems through the use of force, is at present making an important contribution to the shaping of the new political thinking. The Nonaligned Movement has become a substantial factor of international relations and has turned into an influential force in the people's struggle to preserve peace and affirm equal international relations.

The representatives of the countries participating in the meeting expressed confidence that a major contribution to the process of improving the situation in the Asia and Pacific region could be made by the organization regarding broad trade and economic cooperation between the states in the region and declared their countries' desire to participate in it on a mutually advantageous and equal basis.

The meeting discussed measures for the further coordination of the fraternal countries' actions on questions of ensuring peace and security in the Asia and Pacific region.

UKRAINE'S LYASHKO RECEIVES IAEA DIRECTOR-GENERAL

LD132109 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Kiev January 13 TASS -- Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Hans Blix who had visited the Chernobyl atomic power station, was received today by Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Ukraine Aleksandr Lyashko.

A conversation was held in which the guest was told about the measures taken to overcome the consequences of the accident, to ensure safety of the population and normal functioning of the national economy in the adjoining areas. It was noted that people evacuated from the 30-kilometre zone had been provided with housing, with jobs, that children went to school and pre-school institutions. Radiological and laboratory checks of the population were conducted in the resettlement zones everywhere. Observations of the radiation situation are conducted all over the territory of the republic. There is a control over the quality of food products and water.

Aleksandr Lyashko noted the importance of cooperation in this area in IAEA framework. He spoke highly of IAEA activity.

The accident in Chernobyl highlighted again the need for international cooperation in the area of construction and operation of atomic power stations, Hans Blix said. Man cannot afford to give up the use of such sources of energy either now or in the future. Therefore, IAEA exerts efforts for a broader exchange of information related to peaceful uses of the energy of the atom.

The IAEA director general spoke optimistically of the prospects for normal life in areas that had been affected by the accident. He stressed that this optimism was based on results that had already been achieved by Soviet scientists, specialists.

PEREZ DE CUELLAR REPLIES TO GORBACHEV MESSAGE

LD131907 Moscow TASS in English 1854 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] New York January 13 TASS -- Follows the United Nations secretary-general's spokesman statement to TASS on Javier Perez de Cuellar response to the message by Mikhail S. Gorbachev:

The secretary-general considers Mr. Gorbachev's letter to be a most important one. He hopes it will stimulate discussions in the international community about very crucial issues and especially welcome the important role entrusted to the United Nations by the general secretary.

PRAVDA CITES U.S. SPOKESMAN, MEDIA ON DRA

PM141048 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan report under general heading: "A Course Leading to a Settlement: Who Is 'For' and Who Is 'Against' Peace in Afghanistan"]

[Text] Washington -- During a meeting of journalists with White House deputy press secretary Daniel Howard PRAVDA's correspondent asked him to comment on Kabul's initiative. "We believe," D Howard said, "that the true path to peace and stability in Afghanistan will be the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country."

In reality, and this is being said openly here, the protracted war on Afghan soil is largely the fault of the United States and its Western allies. "The flow of Western weapons is helping to continue the war," the magazine NEWSWEEK writes. ABC television made an even more concrete statement, based on remarks by American officials: "The United States intends to maintain the influx of military aid to the mojahedin (the Afghan dushmans -- V.G.) to the tune of nearly half a billion dollars a year, and to call on Pakistan to give them refuge abroad, which will enable them to continue the war."

Despite the palisade of lies and slander which was hastily erected in the United States, it is becoming recognized that it is a question of honest, constructive attempts to find a way of settling the conflict. "The Soviet Union is serious about withdrawing from Afghanistan," CBS Television notes. "Najib's statement backs up the public adherence of Moscow and Kabul to the cause of ending the war, while national reconciliation, including a cease-fire and the creation of a broad coalition government, could pave the way for a political settlement and the withdrawal of Soviet troops," THE WASHINGTON POST writes.

U.S. 'LIES' COVER FOR 'MILITARIST AMBITIONS'

PM131241 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 86 p 5

[V. Drobkov "Commentator's Column": "In the Quagmire"]

[Text] Pentagon assistant chief R. Perle was recently caught red-handed as they say in an attempt to accuse the USSR of "testing a new heavy missile." The lie has been exposed. But Washington seems unembarrassed.

Indeed, it would be hard to expect a different reaction. After all, if you compare all the instances of what may mildly be termed insincerity on the part of the present U.S. Administration, you cannot help concluding that for this administration the distortion of truth has become a recognized and even entirely respectable means of pursuing its policy. It seems, following the state terrorism which the United States has adopted, a kind of "state swindling" is being asserted.

You don't have to go far for examples. Let's just remember the "Irangate" scandal raging in the United States; it is emerging that representatives of the highest echelons of the administration lied to the Americans. Washington also makes extensive use of deception in international affairs. For instance, it was necessary to justify the piratical attack on Libya, thus the White House's initiative the latest story about "terrorist intrigues" flies around the world.

Particularly extensive use is made of lies to conceal militarist ambitions. The Pentagon proposed to extract additional billions for the arms race -- so official reports about "the mounting Soviet threat" poured forth as if from a horn of plenty. If later even the CIA admits that many figures in these reports were blatantly exaggerated, no matter -- it already has the money. The White House has decided to wreck the SALT II Treaty and so it is making totally unsubstantiated accusations: The USSR itself is violating the limitations! The Pentagon men are undermining the ABM treaty, and we find the same picture: Agan there erupts from Washington a flood of empty allegations that Moscow long ago created its own SDI. What mountains of fables, conjectures, and falsifications the Washington hypocrites erected around Reykjavik!

We could continue the list of fables concocted in Washington's political kitchen. It is not a case of quantity. It is a matter of principle, so to speak. The fact being it is wrong to liken the leaders of the great nuclear power to Baron Muenchhausen, whose fantasies were innocent and harmless to the surrounding world. Washington's propaganda stories in a spirit of international confrontation designed to accumulate mountains of weapons are another matter. That is not the only difference. While Muenchhausen, according to his own stories, once succeeded in extracting himself and his horse from a swamp, Washington will probably not succeed, so deep is the quagmire of lies it has generated.

McFarlane Exposes 'Irangate Lies'

LD131404 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 13 TASS -- As a result of the row of the U.S. clandestine arms shipments to Iran and the illicit funnelling of a part of the funds thus earned to the Nicaraguan contras, President Reagan's positions have been seriously undermined. A statement to this effect has been made in a UPI agency interview by Claiborne Pell, new chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In connection with the hearings on "Irangate" scheduled to begin on January 14 at the committee, he urged the Chief Executive to tell all the truth about that affair.

Robert McFarlane, former assistant to the president for National Security Affairs, one of the main characters in the row, has once again exposed the lies spread by the White House to the effect that the President did not know about the "Iran-contras" deal at its early stages. Speaking in an NBC television interview he said that Reagan personally sanctioned armed shipments to Iran way back in August 1985. McFarlane specially noted that in so doing President Reagan apparently violated a number of American laws.

To conceal from public the President's involvement in the unlawful adventure, a campaign of misinformation was launched in the White House, McFarlane said. Thus Oliver North, a key figure in the scandal, a former high-ranking official of the National Security Council, several times wrote anew the memorandum containing a chronicle of events in order to "strengthen the President's positions." In so doing, he presented the facts in a distorted light so that they should fit into the version suiting the book of the White House. His evidence, as NBC said, along with the statements by other participants in the clandestine machinations, was designed only to ensure a cover for the adminstration's lies and shield the President from the Iranian scandal.

As the newspaper THE WALL STREET JOURNAL said, the White House staff is trying to lay the whole blame for the "Iran-contras" operation on former assistants to the president for National Security Affairs McFarlane and Poindexter, former member of the staff of the National Security Council Lieutenant Colonel North as well as on the go-betweens in the arms sales to Iran, and the Israelis.

Meanwhile, representatives of the adminstration are persistently trying to create an impression that Reagan knew nothing about those citizens. Acting this way the White House may protect the President from legal responsibility for the dubious actions of his subordinates. Yet this tactics, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL warns, threatens that trust in Reagan as the leader will be further undermined.

COMMENTS ON USS IOWA'S MOVE TO CENTRAL AMERICA

LD130046 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Viktor Ivanov commentary]

[Text] The United States has sent the battleship "Iowa" to the shores of Central America. In the past the battleship played the role of a big stick in various regions of the world. Our commentary is by Viktor Ivanov, and this is what he writes: The re-use of the "Iowa" along with other big ships of the Second World War period pursues political rather than military purposes. As experience shows, the ships are intended for muscle-flexing in some or other region and in the event of need, to conduct punitive operations against the disobedient. One of the examples was the bombardment of peaceful settlements in Lebanan in 1983 and 1984 with shells weighing 1 tonne each from the guns of the "New Jersey" battleship, a sister ship of the "Iowa".

The U.S. Naval Command has refused to say for how long the battleship will stay off Central America, yet announcing the aim of the voyage, a military spokesman said it is to demonstrate United States' interest in the region, which confirms the political character of the "Iowa's" mission. There is another fact to confirm this: The voyage coincides in time with the beginning of another joint exercise of United States' and Honduran troops in direct proximity to the border with Nicaragua. The troops should [as heard] practice operations to invade that country. The political character of the United States' military activities around Nicaragua has been admitted also by Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Elliott Abrams. The military pressure, he said, should make that country more tractable in negotiations with the United States. In other words, it should force it to capitulate and give up its revolutionary gains.

Meanwhile, observers say there exists the threat of a direct United States intervention in Nicaragua. The threat has increased since Washington failed to attain its aim in Nicaragua with the help of contras. Despite all the United States' aid the anti-Nicaragua groups have failed to gain a single victory in combat or get support from the population. The threat of attack is increasing, since Washington may try to aggravate the crisis in Central America to distract public attention from the Irangate. Yet the chief factor behind the growing threat of a U.S. intervention is the successes of Nicaragua in its peaceful development.

The country has just adopted its first ever democratic constitution which for the first time gurantees citizens the right to work and housing, to education and medical care, the right to elect and be elected. The Constitution has legalized political pluralism, the freedom of worship, a mixed national economy and a number of other major principles. In other words, it has offered peaceful solutions to such problems of Central America as the age-long poverty, economic inequality and political oppression used by dictatorial and pro-United States regimes for years to ensure the United States its so-called vital interests in the region. The Central America [word indistinct] is facing two opposite programs: One is to develop along lines dictated by Washington and the other, to enjoy genuine freedom and independence and satisfy the interests of the people of the region.

SHULTZ AFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA

LD130054 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Nairobi January 12 TASS -- Washington will carry on "constructive engagement" with the apartheid regime. This has been reaffirmed by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, addressing a press conference in the Kenyan capital.

The strategic line of the USA vis-a-vis [words indistinct] remains unchanged. Washington is known to encourage the racists to terror against South Africa's black African population, support the aggressive sorties of the apartheid regime against the "frontline" states.

The secretary of state also said that the administration did not intend to give up support for the anti-Angolan UNITA counter-revolutionary grouping. Cut-throats from that terrorist organisation are employed by the secret services of the U.S.A. and the racist RSA to destabilize the situation in Angola.

Earlier the U.S. secretary of state, who is currently on his first tour of Africa south of the Sahara, advertised in every way possible the free enterprise policy. In one of his statements in Dakar, the capital of Senegal, he high-handedly demanded that the African states give up the non-capitalist path of development. In doing so, George Shultz made it clear that the granting of U.S. "aid" would depend on the preparedness of some or other state to meet Washington's demands.

PENTAGON SUPPORTS TRADE, TECHNOLOGY BANS

LD131005 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 13 TASS -- The information about the report by a team of authoritative exports headed by Retired General Lou Allen, former chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force, quoted in the newspaper WASHINGTON POST immediately met with a hostile reception from the Pentagon. The latter report says that the bans introduced by the Pentagon on trade in technology with the Soviet Union are detrimental to the economy of the U.S.A. The authors of the report recommend that these bans are reconsidered. yet, spokesman for the Pentagon Britain categorically rejected these recommendations. The War Department could not care less about economic interests. It annually squanders hundreds of billions of dollars on the arms race which has resulted in an enormous permanent deficit both in foreign trade and in the country's federal budget.

TASS ON U.S. 'REPRESSION' AGAINST PEACE ACTIVISTS

LD132150 Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Igor Orlov:

Hardly a day passes in the United States without repressions being launched against peace campaigners. Those include police actions, arrests and provocative raids on various public organizations.

According to reports from Florida, more than twenty anti-war activists were arrested there in the past days.

In Pennsylvania, two priests, Dexter Lanctot and Thomas McGann, former Army officer Greg Boerije and activist of the movement aiding the destitute and homeless Lina Romano were thrown behind bars the other day.

The anti-war activists who took part in a symbolic action of protest against Washington's militarist course are threatened with prosecution and long prison terms.

Various methods are being used to suppress the anti-war movement in the United States. These include break-ins and raids on the offices of anti-war movements, theft and destruction of documents, deliberate propagation of lies and disinformation designed to discredit the people opposed to the nuclear arms race and its transfer into outer space and campaigning for the termination of nuclear weapons tests.

There is so far no information on the number of arrests of peace campaigners in the U.S. over the past year. In 1985, more than 5,000 activists were arrested nationwide, according to the public organization Johnny House.

The considerable number of political prisoners in the U.S.(although no official figures have been released) comprises many anti-war activists, people of various political and religious views. Among them are religious figures Karl and Paul Kabat, Lawrence Claude Morgan, Martin Holliday and Helen Woodson.

Mass repressions and persecution cannot break the will of people of various age, occupation and political convictions who are determined to press for a nuclear-free world, for human survival.

U.S. ELECTIONS SHOW POTENTIAL 'REORIENTATION'

PM091511 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "Question Marks. Changes on Capitol Hill"]

[Text] Washington, 7 Jan -- Trucks have made it impossible for people to make their way on Capitol Hill over the last few weeks. Constantly arriving at or departing from the U.S. Congress buildings, they have held up traffic while awkwardly negotiating the nearby narrow streets. The drivers have tried to keep their tempers, knowing that a "great migration" was in process. Having lost in the November elections, the already former legislators were clearing the premises while the happy victors were filling the offices made vacant for them with their own bags and baggage.

If one were looking for political epitaphs, there is perhaps no better one to be found than the statement by House of Representatives member L. Panetta. "They've stirred the pot, but so far no one knows what the ultimate result will be," this Democrat from California said a few days ago. The 1st session of the 100th U.S. Congress, which began its work 6 January, really is an "unknown quantity," even though it would seem that the very fact that both houses of the country's supreme legislative organs are controlled by the opposition Democratic Party for the first time in the last 6 years ought to indicate a different mood.

It is probably worth recalling that from the moment the Reagan administration came to power the Republicans had a majority in the upper house, the Senate. All these years the president's personal popularity, with some help from Republican senators, made the White House the center of gravity.

The priorities set by it inevitably became national priorities. And even though the president failed to win every single clash with Congress, his agenda set the direction for the debates on Capitol Hill.

The November mid-term elections unexpectedly forced the administration to take a defensive stance. Despite Reagan's personal participation in the election contest, the Democrats scored impressive successes, capturing the Senate (55-45) and increasing their numbers in the lower house by 5 (258-177). The Republican's losses, coupled with the sharp decline of public confidence in the administration through the scandal about secret arms shipments to Iran, have switched the center of gravity back to Capitol Hill.

There have been more than sufficient expectations and forecasts as to how the Democratic Congress would behave under these conditions. True enough, no one would risk passing a definite judgment, but the key word in all forecasts today is confrontation. Congress has inherited from previous years a heavy burden of domestic and foreign problems which, according to the press, can be solved only through sharp conflicts with the White House. The Democrats' legislative plans which have already become public knowledge clearly indicate that clashes on a broad range of issues are inevitable. Some of these issues go back a long time, others have expanded to an alarming scale during the time of Republican rule. Record federal budget deficits, retreats along the fronts of trade war with "competing partners," the collapse of U.S. farming, the crisis in education and medical services, exacerbated problems in transportation and environmental protection, flaws in tax reform -- this is an incomplete list of issues the legislators will have to tackle.

Despite all this, observers are unanimous in noting that a leading position among the legislators' priority tasks is occupied by foreign policy questions, and primarily arms control and the U.S. approach to the Soviet Union's radical peace proposals. "The Democrats," THE WALL STREET JOURNAL writes, "consider the President vulnerable in these respects." As expected, the very first day of work by the new session of Congress produced a most acute confrontation with the White House. The Democrats introduced legislative proposals blocking the main government programs on military policy issues.

Three legislative proposals were introduced one after the other in the House of Representatives, clashing in one way or another with the Reagan administration's plans for accelerating the buildup of the U.S. nuclear arsenal. One of them provides for preserving the ban on antisatellite weapon tests, another demands a return to observance of the Soviet-U.S. SALT II Treaty, and the third limits the yield of nuclear explosions carried out by the United States.

All these initiatives were already approved last fall by the House of Representatives, following the administration's calls for "unity" on the eve of the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik. Giving in to the pressure by the administration, the legislators decided to delay their passage. The unconstructive stance (adopted by Washington) in Iceland forced the congressmen to reiterate their demands.

At the same time the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has scheduled for 13 January hearings on two international treaties on the limitation of nuclear explosions which were signed in the past but have not yet been ratified by the United States.

Judging by the legislators' initial reaction to the draft federal budget for fiscal 1988, which has been submitted by the administration to Congress, a fireworks display of protest can be also expected on this issue.

The Democrats -- like many Republicans, incidentally -- have reacted sharply to the new colossal appropriations requested by the White House for the Pentagon, including funds for accelerating the "Star Wars" program and the MX first strike missile program. Questions have been raised about the government's declared intention to provide a further 100 million dollars in military aid to anti-Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. Demands have been heard for radical review of the administration's budget policy.

In other words, there is no doubt about the existence of the potential for a political reorientation in the United States. This does not mean, however, that it will materialize. Only time will show whether the Democratic Party will manage to rally its ranks and offer Americans constructive alternatives to the "Reagan age."

REAGAN TO APPOINT FITZWATER DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY

LD131008 Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 13 TASS -- The White House has officially announced that President Reagan intends to appoint Marlin Fitzwater his deputy assistant and deputy press secretary. Fitzwater, who until recently was press secretary of U.S. Vice President Goerge Bush, will take office on February 2, when the current official spokesman for the president Larry Speakes resigns. Yet judging by the pronouncements by the new spokesman for the president, there will be no considerable change in the relations of the White House with the press. Fitzwater was asked at a briefing at the press department of the White House by an ABC TV correspondent whether he thought that the administration had the ritht to lie, to mislead the public directly and conscientiously. Fitzwater repled that he would not like to enter into a debate on that point.

DENG XIAOPING CRITICIZES 'STUDENT DISORDERS'

LD131834 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL reports from Beijing that one of the Chinese leaders, Deng Xiaoping, has described the recent student disorders in the country as directed against the socilaist system. In conversation with the Japanese politician Noboru Takashita, he spoke of the demonstrators as rightest elements and proponents of indiscriminate copying of the West. Deng Xiaoping also said that these views are shared by some officials of the Chinese Communist Party. He said if they want to remain in the party they have to conform with the party line.

RENMIN RIBAO CITED ON 'MOOD' OF PRC YOUTH

LD131331 Moscow Domestic Service in Russin 0330 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] RENMIN RIBAO, the organ of the Chinese Communist Party, has published a commentary devoted to the mood of the country's young people. It is pointed out that in the second half of the eighties in China, a country that has achieved successes on the way toward building socialism, there are people who, contrary to expectations, are once again coming out with the slogan of indiscriminate copying of the West. Within the context of such copying, the newspaper notes, these people include both the ideology and morals as well as the political system of the capitalist order. The newspaper says that such talk could confuse some young people.

Elucidating the essence of the present open-door policy, RENMIN RIBAO stresses that China is borrowing front-ranking foreign technology and generally-acknowledged experience in the economic management sphere, while at the same time it decisively rejects the ideology and social order of capitalism. This commentary in the Chinese Communists' newspaper appeared on the same day as a XINHUA agency report on the reorganization of the leadership of Hefei Polytechnical University. The reorganization was carried out in connection with the student demonstrations that took place in this higher education institution. The president and vice-president of the university were removed from their posts. The decision points out that the leadership of the higher education institution had tried to undermine the party leadership and preached bourgeois liberalization.

DECREASE IN PRC EXPORT REVENUES REPORTED

PM311455 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Yu. Savenkov dispatch under the rubric "From the IZVESTIYA Teleprinter"]

[Text] Beijing — According to figures released by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, during 10 months of this year China's exports have increased 7 percent and its imports have fallen more than 8 percent in comparison with the same period last year.

Nevertheless, China's exports have produced $3 billion less than in 1985, mainly because of the fall in oil prices. Oil products usually account for one-fourth of its export revenues.

PDPA POLITBURO DISCUSSES SHEVARDNADZE VISIT

LD132319 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee Politburo has discussed and approved the results of the working visit to Afghanistan by Comrades Shevardnadze and Dobrynin. It was stressed at the session that the visit was a new contribution to the cause of broadening Afghan-Soviet cooperation and stepping up relations between the two countries at a breakthrough point in the history of the new Afghanistan.

DRA'S FATHERLAND FRONT 2D CONGRESS OPENS

LD140634 Moscow TASS in English 0555 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 14 TASS -- The second congress of the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the most broad-based social and political organization of the country, opened in the Afghan capital today.

More than 20 foreign delegations have arrived in Kabul to attend the congress. The delegates to the congress, who represent all the provinces of the country, will discuss the key problem of today's Afghanistan, national reconciliation and the restoration of peace and security in the country.

DRA ARMY POLITICAL CHIEF DISCUSSES CEASE-FIRE

PM131836 Moscow IZEVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jan 87 Morning Edition pp 1, 4

[Own correspondent D. Meschaninov Kabul interview with Major General (Zabiulla) Ziyarmal, chief of the DRA Army Main Political Directorate: "Vigilance and Creation" -- date unspecified]

[Text] Kabul -- At the request of this IZVESTIYA correspondent, Maj Gen (Zabiulla) Ziyarmal, chief of the DRA Army Main Political Directorate, discussed the Afghan Armed Forces' preparations for the first day of the military cease-fire and their role and importance in the process of nationwide reconciliation.

National reconciliation starts with a cease-fire on a nationwide scale, Z. Ziyarmal said. The date for the military cease-fire announced in the DRA Revolutionary Council declaration "On National Reconciliation in Afghanistan" is 15 January. On that day the Afghan Armed Forces will unilaterally cease firing all types of weapons, stop their artillery and air strikes against the enemy, and halt combat operations.

Subunits will return to their permanent bases, switching to peacetime standing orders. The armed forces will restrict themselves to guarding the state border and important military and national economic centers and ensuring the passage of truck convoys carrying goods needed for the normal work of industrial enterprises and prime necessities for the local population.

On our side, the cease-fire will last 6 months -- until 15 July 1987 -- provided that the opposing side joins in. In the event that hostilities are not resumed, the cease-fire will be extended by both sides.

What do we expect in reponse to our peaceful steps? The ending of the shelling of cities, villages, national economic targets, air transport, and Afghan Armed Forces subunit bases using any type of weapon. We also expect that shipments from abroad and the siting on DRA territory of weapons and munitions, the mining of roads, and the carrying out of acts of terrorism and sabotage will cease.

Afghan Armed Forces unit and subunit commands have received clear instructions to show restraint and not yield to possible provocations. All this, of course does not mean that the unilateral cease-fire will allow the opposing side to continue the undeclared war and sow death and destruction on Afghan soil. Those who refuse to observe the cease-fire will receive a crushing rebuff. Nobody should have any illusions about that. Vigilance and vigilance again is the taks that we are now placing before DRA Army personnel.

During the cease-fire, Z. Ziyarmal continued, subunit personnel who have returned to their permanent bases will undergo combat training. The Afghan Armed Forces' combat capability must be maintained at a high level; we must be prepared for the most unexpected and unforeseeable situations. A reliable cease-fire is just the first step along the path toward a normalization of the situation in Afghanistan.

Lasting peace, Comrade Najib said at the extraordinary PDPA Central Committee plenum, requires nationwide agreement on the question of how to organize the just and representative administration of our common and united home -- Afghanistan. And nobody should seek farfetched pretexts for wrecking talks, avoiding them, and restarting the fratricidal war. In the social, political, and economic spheres we are prepared to give each opposing force a real opportunity to express itself and its specific interests on the basis of peaceful coexistence and cooperation.

In the difficult process of nationwide reconciliation, Z. Ziyarmal continued, the Afghan Armed Forces have a considerable role to play. This role consists first and foremost in their painstaking work with the local population to explain the party's peace-loving policy and the provisions and essence of the DRA Revolutionary Council's declaration "On National Reconciliation in Afghanistan." How will this propaganda activity, which is needed to ensure a speedy end to bloodshed and the establishment of lasting peace on Afghan soil, be carried out in practice?

Each Army subunit has a so-called reponsibility zone in which explanatory work with the local population is conducted by authorized propagandists with the involvement of all personnel. We send the most experienced political workers from the Defense Ministry to help them. Furthermore, several propaganda detachments have been organized at the Main Political Directorate. They will be sent to the country's "hottest" spots.

But, of course, servicemen are called upon to participate in the nationwide reconciliation process not only in words but in deeds. They will help the local populace to restore destroyed houses, irrigation canals, mosques, schools, and power lines, and to clear roads and fields of mines. All Afghans, forgetting their former resentment and dissension, must do a very great deal to ensure that national consensus is achieved through joint efforts and that the wounds inflicted by the many years of war are healed.

Vigilance and creation, (Zabiulla) Ziyarmal said, are the words I would use to define the main tasks facing the Afghan Armed Forces at this crucial time in our history.

KOMSOMOL CONFERENCE OF TROOPS IN DRA HELD

PM131930 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jan 87 First Edition p 2

[Own correspondent Major A. Oliynik dispatch: "Fidelity to International Duty"]

[Text] Limited Contingent of Soviet Troops in Afghanistan -- A Komsomol conference of the Limited Contingent of Soviet Troops in Afghanistan was held yesterday.

The report by Major General V. Shcherbakov and the speeches by delegates Comrades A. Bombin, V. Ulyanov, V. Bertenev, A. Kiselev, and D. Golovko discussed the selfless fulfillment by Komsomol servicemen of their patriotic and international duty and ways of further improving combat readiness and vigilance and ensuring that a good personal example is set by Komsomol members in strengthening military discipline, organization, and order. It was stressed that the party's course of acceleration worked out by the 27th CPSU Congress and the preparations for the 20th congress of the Lenin Komsomol are having a mobilizing influence on the activity of Komsomol organizations at units and subunits and on the successful fulfillment by internationalist servicemen of their socialist pledges in the year marking the 70th anniversary of Great October.

The conference was addressed by Admiral A. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and V. Fedosov, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee.

P. Mozhayev, USSR ambassador to the DRA, took part in the conference's work.

The conference participants unanimously elected delegates to the 20th Komsomol Congress.

DRA PROTESTS PAKISTANI 'AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS'

LD101942 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 10 TASS -- The Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has strongly protested to Pakistan's charge d'affaires ad interim over the repeated violations by Pakistani military planes of Afghanistan's air space and the rocketing of Afghanistan's territory. The foreign affairs ministry points out in the note that Pakistani planes, flying on reconnaissance missions, strayed into Afghanistan's air space on December 23 and 24, 1986, and on January 3. Between December 28 and January 3, 300 "ground-to-ground" missiles were launched from Pakistani territory on the Afghan settlement, Barikowt. As a result, there are civilian causalties and destruction.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan denounced the aggressive actions of the Pakistani side and demanded that the Pakistani authorities stop these hostile actions, the report of the BAKHTAR news agency points out.

BRIEFS

GANDHI CONFERENCE DELEGATION -- Delhi, 12 [no month as received] (TASS) -- Indira Gandhi: her works, her achievements, and her contribution to the cause of peace throughout the world are the focal theme of an international conference which has opened here. The Soviet delegation is headed by B.I. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. [Excerpts] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0931 GMT Jan 87 LD]

HONECKER, NAKASONE HOLD TALKS IN BERLIN

LD131819 Moscow TASS in English 1757 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Berlin January 13 TASS -- Talks between General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the GDR Council of State Erich Honecker and Japan's Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, on an official visit in the GDR, were held here today.

Upholding and consolidating peace is the GDR's most important task now, the GDR leader said. There will be neither victors nor vanquished in the event of nuclear war. So this catastrophe must not be allowed, in the same way as no one should be allowed to be striving for the achievement of the military-strategic superiority. Nations ought to learn to coexist peacefully, since there is no reasonable alternative to this. The militarization of space presupposed by the U.S. "Star Wars" programme would mean the stepping up of the arms race to huge proportions and would simultaneously preclude any opportunity of getting it under control.

Erich Honecker insistently declared in favour of the United States joining in the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing and strictly observing the existing treaties on arms limitation, including the SALT-2 treaty. The proposals advanced by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev in Reykjavik suit the interests of entire humanity. The Reykjavik meeting again extended to peoples the hope for possibility of nuclear disarmament. This historic chance should be used, he said.

Supporting Erich Honecker's statement on the need for a political dialogue in the interests of peace and detente, Yasuhiro Nakasone said that it is important for Japan to conduct a dialogue with states with different social systems, striving for concrete results.

Touching upon the Soviet-U.S. Reykjavik summit, Japan's prime minister described it as a historic event. He positively assessed Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals and emphasized that because of the difference in the stands about SDI results were not achieved. He expressed the hope that the great powers can achieve agreement which is possible. Japan and the GDR which have no nuclear weapons must support the efforts of the sides, Yasuhiro Nakasone said.

Discussions on Disarmament

LD132114 Moscow TASS in English 2034 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Berlin January 13 TASS -- The Soviet Union's initiative for ridding the globe of all kinds of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 and proposals of the Warsaw Treaty countries for a reduction of conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals mean a comprehensive peace programme, said general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist State Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the GDR Council of State Erich Honecker. Speaking today at a reception in honour of Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, on an official visit here, Erich Honecker emphasized that the GDR welcomes and supports the initiative Mikhail Gorbachev advanced in Vladivostok and all other proposals for the ensurance of security and peaceful cooperation in the Asian-Pacific region.

These constructive realistic ideas mean an important impetus to all who are striving for peaceful relations and fruitful cooperation in the area.

Speaking in reply, Japan's Prime Minister said that the demand of the time now is to be developing a political dialogue, contacts and talks with a view to achieving a turn from the arms race to disarmament, detente and cooperation. The constructive efforts of all states for the sake of world security are now needed as never before, he said.

JARUZELSKI LA REPUBBLICA INTERVIEW CITED

PM131117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "W. Jaruzelski Interview"]

[Text] Warsaw, 12 Jan -- Like the other socialist countries, Poland is carrying out socialist construction with a consideration for universal natural laws and historically formed national features. This was stated by W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, in an interview with the Italian newspaper LA REPUBBLICA issued by the PAP agency. The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the Polish leader indicated, have met with a lively response in Poland. It is essential to stress the substantial coincidence of the processes and avenues of the restructuring of sociopolitical and economic life in Poland and the USSR. These processes are a fundamentally new quality in the strategy of socialist building.

The working meeting of leaders of the socialist CEMA countries' fraternal parties in Moscow, he continued, imparted extraordinarily important impulses to the new understanding of the tasks and methods of socialist economic integration. The opportunity has arisen for taking innovatory decisions making it possible to make more effective use of the material and spiritual potential at our disposal. Poland is eargerly making use of the experience of other fratenal countries, and is making its contribution to the further consolidation of the socialist community.

Describing the economic situation in the country, the Polish leader said that in the past 4 years industrial and agricultural production has been increasing systematically. Every year a positive balance is being achieved in trade with the Western countries. The situation in the domestic market is gradually improving. The recent PZPR Central Committee plenum defined a specific program for accelerating the qualitative changes in the economy providing for the more resolute introduction of economic principles into life.

JARUZELSKI MEETS POPE, VATICAN SECRETARY

LD131441 Moscow TASS in English 1429 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Rome January 13 TASS -- Wojciech Jaruzelski, the chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, has visited the Vatican today, where he was received by John Paul the Second. The conversation between them was of a confidential character.

Later in the day Wojceich Jaruzelski met with Vatican's Secretary of State Agostino Casaroli.

ALIYEV MEETS WITH POLISH TRADE MINISTER

PM121233 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] On 8 January G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received J. Jozwiak, Polish minister of internal trade and services, in the Kremlin.

During their conversation, which passed in a warm, comradely atmosphere, questions of the further development and deepening of cooperation in the sphere of trade, reciprocal exchanges of consumer goods, and the improvement of their range and quality were discussed.

The meeting was attended by K.Z. Terekh, USSR minister of trade, and W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

Trade Protocol Signed

AU122131 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 9 Jan 87 p 7

[Text] PAP Moscow -- Carrying out the terms of the Polish-Soviet government agreement of 15 October 1986 concerning the expansion of trade with general utility goods between domestic trade enterprises and organizations, Jerzy Jozwiak, PPR minister of domestic trade and services; and K. Terech, minister of trade of the USSR, signed a protocol in Moscow on Thursday on direct cooperation between domestic trade organizations in the two countries.

A protocol on scientific-technological cooperation and one on 1987 market goods exchange were also signed.

The market goods protocol calls for an exchange of goods worth R80 million, twice last year's amount.

Poland will import from the USSR refrigerators, black-and-white and color television sets, household goods (enamel, aluminum, and tin utensils, and matching tables and chairs), sports equipment, and food items (fish preserves, champagne, and wines).

Poland's exports to the USSR will include cake, spices, concentrates, jam, compotes, and souvenirs, including ones for the "Wanda" store.

Minister J. Jozwiak was received by Geydar Aliyev, CPSU Politburo member and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

ALBANIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY BOARD MEETS 9 JAN

PM121425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Occasion of the Anniversary"]

[Text] A session of the Central Board of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society devoted to the 41st anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic of Albania was held in Moscow 9 January.

The speakers noted that the proclamation of the republic consolidated the gains of the people's democratic revolution in Albania and created favorable conditions for the implementation by the Albanian working people of profound socioeconomic changes and the building of socialism.

A greetings telegram containing cordial congratulations to the Albanian working people on this important anniversary in their country's history and wishes for further success along the path of building socialism, peace, and prosperity was dispatched to the Albanian Committee for Cultural and Friendly Relations with Foreign Countries on behalf of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society.

OFFICIAL ON ALBANIAN DEVELOPMENT, TIES WITH USSR

PM131845 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by D. Chuvakhin, deputy chairman of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society Central Board: "Portentous Milestone in Albanian History"]

[Excerpts] On 11 January 1946 the first session of the Albanian Constituent Assembly, elected 2 December 1945 in a democratic general election, announced the abolition of the monarchy and adopted a declaration stating that "The Albanian people, as the masters of their own destiny, have freely and unanimously decided, through the Constituent Assembly implementing their will, that Albania will become a people's republic." [passage omitted containing reminiscenses about the assembly session]

It is a long time since those memorable days. The achievements of the fraternal Albanian people, who embarked more than 40 years ago on the path of socialist building, are great and considerable. In that time the once backward and illiterate country has turned into an agrarian-industrial country with a developed agricultural sector, modern industrial enterprises, an extensive network of railroads and roads, and high standards of medical care, public education, and culture. The country's industry now produces as much output in 2 days as it produced in all of 1938, while agricultural output is five times higher than the prewar level. All cities and villages have been provided with electricity and in the years of the people's power, per capita national income has increased fivefold.

Soviet people are gratified by socialist Albania's achievements. They are proud that in the difficult years for the country they stood alongside Albanian working people, giving them material aid and support. And it was no accident that the Fourth Albanian Workers Party Congress in February 1961 noted that "the aid and support of the Soviet Union was one of the most important external factors in our immense successes in socialist building."

Through my work with the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society I am well aware that Soviet people consider the present state of relations between our countries to be unnatural. They hope that the fraternal ties between the Soviet and Albanian peoples will ultimately be restored. The Soviet Union consistently adheres to the line of regularizing [uregulirovaniye] relations with socialist Albania. Our country is resolutely in favor of eradicating the obstacles preventing the normalization of relations, of overcoming all features of the period of estrangement [razobshchennost] between our countries, and of joining with Albania in seeking ways of restoring normal Soviet-Albanian relations in the interests of our peoples and the cause of peace and socialism.

JARUZELSKI MEETS WITH ITALIAN COMMUNIST LEADER

LD140953 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Rome January 14 TASS -- Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, met on Tuesday with Alessandro Natta, general secretary of the Italian Communist Party.

ICELANDIC ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO DEMICHEV

LD131140 Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- Iceland's Ambassador Tomas A. Tomasson presented in the Kremlin his credentials to Petr Demichev, an alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The sides discussed in a friendly atmosphere some problems of the current international situation, influenced by the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik, and also bilateral Soviet-Icelandic relations.

CONSULTATIONS HELD WITH UK OFFICIALS ON S. AMERICA

LD090059 Moscow TASS in English 2304 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] London January 8 TASS -- Soviet-British political consultations on the level of experts on questions of the situation in Latin America were held at the British Foreign Office today.

Taking part in them from the Soviet side were head of the First Latin American Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry V. Kazimirov and deputy head of the Second Latin American Department I. Laptev, and from the British side - Assistant of the Permanent Deputy Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs D. Fern and other officials.

The Soviet representatives were received by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Lady Young.

BRIEFS

FRG MACHINE TOOL CONTRACT -- Minsk, 12 January (TASS) -- Under the terms of a contract signed today, the FRG firm Gerbert is to receive all-purpose robot milling machine tools worth R200,000 in the 1st quarter of this year and the Minsk machine tool works will, for the first time, have export returns at its disposal. The Minsk works is one of the USSR's largest producers of powerful metal-cutting machine tools, of multioperation manipulator robots, and of maching centers. Identical contracts have been signed with the French firm line and the Japanese firm Mitsui. Eight other Belorussian firms nave, as of this year, the right to direct access to the international market. An accord has already been reached with a number of foreign firms for mutually beneficial payment with the equipment needed to refit the Minsk enterprise. [Summary] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1927 GMT 12 Jan 87 LD]

IRAQ 'WELCOMES' SOVIET APPEAL TO END WAR

LD141030 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Our correspondent Aleksandr Levchenko reports from Baghdad:

[Levchenko] Baghdad welcomes and supports the appeal from the Soviet Government for an end to the Iran-Iraq war. Articles with this heading have been published in the Iraqi papers AL-SHAURA, AL-'IRAQ, AL-GADISIYAH, AL-JUMHURIYAH and THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER, and several other publications as well. Attention is being drawn especially to the part of the statement that says that the conflict should be resolved by peaceful means, on the basis of observing sovereignty and territorial integrity and noninterference by Iraq and Iran in each other's foreign affairs. In a special statement, an official representative of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry has also noted the readiness of Iraq to cooperate with the Soviet Union and other countries in the cause of stopping the conflict and establishing a lasting peace in the area.

The statement by the Soviet Government is very topical and timely. That is the opinion of typical Iraqis with whom I have managed to talk. It is timely because heavy and bloody fighting is going on at this time on the southern part of the front around Basra. During the night of 8-9 January, Iranian troops tried to break through the front on the section manned by the 3d Army Corps. The scale of the fighting is indicated by the figures. Iran put eight corps and two division into the offensive.

The Iraqi media is reporting huge losses inflicted on the enemy during the repulse of the attack. The news agency INA even compares them with the losses incurred by the Iranians during a recent unsuccessful offensive undertaken by Tehran during the last days of 1986.

SOVIET ANTI-ZIONISTS CONDEMN VANUNU ABDUCTION

LD121216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 12 Jan (TASS) -- The recent abduction in Rome of Mordechai Vanunu, former employee of the Israeli Nuclear Research Center in Dimona, is another flagrant violtion of the norms of international law and human rights, says a statement by the Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Republic.

Vanunu was forcibly taken to Israel by agents of the Israeli intelligence service Mosad on the eve of the publication in THE SUNDAY TIMES of an article based on information he had gather about the secret production of nuclear arms.

The document points out that while groundlessly accusing Syria of terrorism, official London at the same time in fact sanctioned a terrorist act -- the secret abduction of Vanunu. The Israeli authorities have countered Vanunu's action against nuclear weapons with an act of brutal violence. The trial of Vanunu in absolute secrecy and systematic abuses of human rights by the Israeli authorities are causing particular concern.

PRAVDA ACCUSES ISRAEL OF FUELING LEBANON STRIFE

PM131924 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[Andrey Stepanov "Commentator's Column": "Fishing in Troubled Waters"]

[Text] The situation has deteriorated further in war-torn Beirut, as there have been armed clashes between two groupings of national patriotic forces -- supporters of the National Syrian Social Party of Lebanon and the Progressive Socialist Party.

Israeli agents have a well-oiled scenario for provoking such clashes and for systematically wrecking any efforts at national reconciliation. The frequency of the occurrence of internecine strife in Beirut clearly reveals yet another pattern pointing to Israeli special services' involvement in it. As soon as the Lebanese patriots make another telling strike against the occupiers and their myrmidons from the so-called "South Lebanese Army," based in the south of the country, Lebanese civilian population centers are immediately hit by massive Israeli artillery fire and aerial bombing. Someone is perfidiously and deliberately fueling contradictions between Lebanese and Palestinians, between right-wing Christian and national patriotic forces and, finally, among Lebanese patriots themselves. Unknown persons cause explosions and bombard institutions, army posts, and headquarters of Lebanese parties. Then leaflets are distributed in which responsibility for these acts is placed on those whom it is most profitable for Tel Aviv to blame. In the tense situation of Beirut this is usually enough.

So it was that at the start of the new year a partisan detachment made a successful attack on Israeli mercenary positions near the settlement of Bra'shit. During the operation the collaborators sustained heavy losses. Despite the Israeli command's frantic efforts to strengthen the puppet "South Lebanese Army," it is demoralized and continues to disintegrate. Its fighters, the Lebanese paper AL-SAFIR writes, do not want the occupiers to use them as "cannon fodder" or, they say in Lebanon, "sandbags." The other day, 40 soldiers, headed by a commander, quit the mercenaries' ranks.

In their impotent rage the occupiers struck the civilian population with savage reprisals, and subjected 13 population centers to barbaric shelling and bombardment. There were casualties and great damage to housing and crops. Rockets are being fired again in Beirut, heavy machineguns are chattering, and ambulance sirens are wailing.

So Tel Aviv is continuing its persistent efforts to "fish in troubled waters." In this case, the very logic of life and of Arab interests and the interests of peace in this region suggest that there is an urgent need to settle the differences between patriotic forces in Lebanon and strengthen their combined rebuff to the provocations by the Israeli military and its imperialist accomplices.

RYZHKOV HOLDS MOSCOW TALKS WITH CUBAN CC MEMBER

LD140929 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has met and talked in Moscow today with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, vice president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

VOROTNIKOV RECEIVES CUBAN ENVOY FOR TALKS

FL091715 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1513 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Vitaliy Vorotnikov, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, has met in Moscow with Julio Camacho, Cuba's ambassador to the USSR, to discuss cooperation issues between the two socialist nations.

TRAINING SHIP TO VISIT CUBA 'MID-FEBRUARY'

FL100238 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] The Soviet training ship ("Kusister") departed today from Tallin, Estonia en route to Havana.

The four-masted sailing ship, second largest in the world in terms of its dimensions, will travel on a 35-day voyage and will arrive in the Cuban capital in mid-February.

In Havana, Cuban youth will learn the art of navigation on the training ship.

ENVOY TO MEXICO ON CONSULATES, GORBACHEV VISIT

FL121200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0503 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Tijuana, Mexico, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rotislav Sergeyev has rejected reports that his country is planning to set up consulates on Mexico's northwest border. He said that those rumors were spread by the United States.

He stated that this kind of behavior could create conflicts between the two nations and added that no one should interfere, not even with words, in the relations between Mexico and the Soviet Union.

Moreover, the diplomat denied that his country gives economic support to Latin American countries in hopes of winning them over to the Soviet form of government. That is simply slander, he claimed.

Concerning the coming visit to Mexico of Soviet Prime Minister [as received] Mikhail Gorbachev, Sergeyev said that mutual invitations had been extended but no dates fixed, although it is possible that this will be arranged when Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor visits.

Mayor Federico Valdes Martinez presented the keys to the city to Sergeyev during his tour of Tijuana, located in Baja California, on the Mexican-U.S. border.

KAZAKH CP BUREAU PENALIZES LOCAL OFFICIALS

PM131423 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 87 p 1

["In the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee" -- KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA headline]

[Excerpts] At a routine session the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has examined the question of the work of the party organization of the "Sovetskiy" Sovkhoz in North Kazakhstan Oblast to introduce intensive techniques and increase the efficiency of agricultural production. [passage omitted]

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau session also examined other questions.

In accordance with the recommendations of the seminary-conference for senior officials of party committees held 3 January 1987, the updating of leading workers' performance appraisal reports [kharakteristiki] has begun in the republic.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat has discussed and approved the performance appraisal report of Comrade Zh. Shaymerdenov, who since 1983 has worked as first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR People's Control Committee.

The performance appraisal report notes that Comrade Zh. Shaymerdenov has experience of leading Soviet and economic work. He knows how to organize matters in the sector entrusted to him and how to mobilize people to achieve the set objectives. He is conscientious in fulfilling his official duties and enjoys respect among the committee's aktiv and personnel. He reacts correctly to criticism.

At the same time, it was emphasized that Comrade Zh. Shaymerdenov still poorly influences the restructuring of the content and style of the work of the republic People's Control Committee and its apparatus in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th party congress on questions of further improving control work. He fails to set a personal example of vigorous questing and imaginative approaches in organizing the activity of people's control organs. The effectiveness of the work of people's control committees, groups, and posts is still assessed on the basis of the number of checks carried out and reprimands and fines imposed and boils down to bureaucratic administration. At the same time little attention is paid to wide participation by people's controllers in preventing shortcomings, helping labor collectives and economic leaders to resolve socioeconomic development tasks, and strengthening order and organization in all sectors of work. The Kazakh SSR People's Control Committee is not properly systematic in work with cadres.

Comrade Zh. Shaymerdenov was told to scrutinize more profoundly the constitutional foundations, role, and functions of people's control, to work seriously on restructuring his personal attitude toward new approaches, to ensure that the measures taken by people's controllers and their organs are primarily preventive, and to enhance the personal responsibility of personnel for the training, education, selection, and placement of cadres and the [cadre] reserve. He was instructed to step up the effectiveness of inspections to prevent violations of state, plan, and contractual discipline. Much must be done to increase the role of departmental inspections and the effectiveness of their results. The best forms and methods of the activity of other committees must be systematically studied, purposeful work to generalize leading experience must be organized, and theoretical and professional standards must be improved.

The opinions of Communists in the Kazakh SSR People's Control Committee primary party organization was taken into account in drawing up the performance appraisal report.

Comrade Zh. Shaymerdenov was present at the consideration of his performance appraisal report and agreed with the comments and recommendations.

Support was given to proposals from party obkoms regarding the dismissal for cause of the following:

M. Isakov, who had been working as first secretary of Dzhambeytinskiy Party Raykom in Uralsk Oblast. He abused his official position, for a number of years refused to pay his bills for municipal services (electricity, apartment heating), kept his own livestock in the public-sector herd at the sovkhoz' expense, crudely violated cadre selection principles, fostered servility and todayism, worked in an unenterprising fashion, failed to investigate the situation at local level, did not fulfill the party's demands regarding the restructuring of the style and methods of leadership, and gave his own personal interests priority over public interests.

R. Sakenov, who had been working as first secretary of Irgizskiy Party Raykom in Aktyubinsk Oblast, for exploiting his official position and immodesty. While he was director of the "Zhanakonysskiy" Sovkhoz he constructed a 120-square-meter house to his own design for his family and, on the pretext of dire need because of the illness of his wife and son, obtained the illegal allocation of a 30-square-meter 2-room apartment in the city of Aktyubinsk, held in his wife's name. After he was elected party raykom first secretary in 1983, he made over his own three-room apartment in the city of Aktyubinsk to his daughter, a student at Karaganda University;

N.V. Surorov, who worked as chairman of Shetskiy Rayispolkom in Dzezkazgan Oblast. he slackened his exactingness toward law enforcement and control organs, rayon agro-industrial association specialist, and sovkhoz leaders and was inconsistent in organizing work to ensure the safekeeping of socialist property and to step up the struggle against thefts and shortages of livestock and other material assets.

They all received party penalties.

Teacher Jailed

PM131211 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 86 p 4

[KAZTAG report under the rubric "From the Courtroom": "Just Deserts"]

[Text] Antisocial actions, civic irresponsibility, and political immaturity brought Zh. A. Sabitova, teacher at Alma-Ata No. 19 Young Workers School, into the dock.

As already reported, on 17-18 December in Alma-Ata a group of young students, incited by nationalist elements, perpetrated disorders, staging riots and acts of arson and beating totally innocent people.

Contributing to these outrages, Zh. A. Sabitova prepared a provocative banner and leaflets with which she attempted to inflame inter-nation enmity and incited young people to act illegally.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Court Judicial Collegium for Criminal Cases under the chairmanship of R.B. Ospanova, member of the republic's Supreme Court, after hearing the case in open session, sentenced Zh.A. Sabitova to 5 years' imprisonment, to be served in a special-regime colony, after which she is to be deprived of the right to teach for 5 years.

Youth Leader Sentenced

AU131214 Paris AFP in English 1201 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, Jan 13 (AFP) -- An official of the Communist party youth wing at the Kazakhstan physics faculty of Alma-Ata university has been sentenced to seven years hard labour for "actively participating" in last month's nationalist student riots in the capital of the Soviet central Asian republic, the local PRAVDA reported.

The KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA received here Tuesday said that K. Rakhmatov -- who has a Kazakh name -- was a "delinquent" who was "politically immature." It accused him of "inciting students to grossly violate public order" and to ignore the orders of police.

His conviction follows Saturday's dismissal of the second secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party's Central Committee, Oleg Miroshkhin, following the riots, in which 20 people died according to Western diplomats.

The riots were triggered by the replacement of Kazakhstan Communist party chief Dinmukhamad Kunayev, a Kazakh, by Gennadiy Kolbin, a Russian.

Party chiefs in non-Russian republics, by tradition, are local nationals and their deputies are Russian, although this practice was broken in Kazakhstan in the 1950's, when the party chief for two years was Leonid Brezhnev, later Soviet leader.

MOSCOW PAPER VIEWS AFTERMATH OF ALMA-ATA EVENTS

PM131236 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Jan 87 p 2

[Own correspondent Aleksandr Samoylenko report: "Lessons of Truth"]

[Text] Alma-Ata -- The first issue of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA this year published an item headed "What Happened in Alma-Ata," on the events which took place in the capital of Kazakhstan 17-18 December. How are things in Alma-Ata today? What determines its mood in these January days of the new year? I will say at once: The city is living its normal life. Although, of course, it would be irresponsible to make out that everything is already in the past and no longer needs thinking about. But first, the most important thing.

Lessons of truth... These words accurately reflect the businesslike new atmosphere which is becoming established in the republic. Many people are now beginning to see more clearly what was hampering the restructuring and replacing this very important party task with hollow phraseology and the semblance of transformations.

This discrepancy -- between words and deeds -- was spoken of sincerely and frankly at a meeting of writers with G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, held on the last day of the year at the republic Writers' Union. In the last 15 years (and writers of the older generation mention a far longer period) I cannot remember such a meeting of literary people with a major party leader held, like this one, in connection with such burning socioeconomic problems. [paragraph continues]

Never before has anyone spoken with them about the fact that working people, those desirable heroes of novels and stories, do not live by production successes alone. They also spend 15-20 years waiting for an apartment, they are deprived of the opportunity, in this very rich republic, to buy food products without excessive fuss, they constantly come up against various instances of social injustice... The writers received much honest information and food for thought; this was an example of free discussion of the difficult areas of life.

The fair distribution of housing and food products, the democratization of relations, the struggle against favoritism, phrasemongering, arrogance -- these are just a few of the topics touched on during the conversation by the first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee. The writers who spoke at the meeting talked about the ancient international traditions of the republic's literature, which is created in the Kazakh, Russian, Uigur, German, and Korean languages, and noted its firm, permanent links with writers in the fraternal republics. But some motifs in their statements suggested the need also to discuss such questions as national feelings and the ability to control them, indiscriminate fascination with historical topics which can turn into national self-esteem, the obvious political immaturity of young people, and the inability of many people to analyze event from clear ideological and political standpoints.

The newspaper has already written that the decisions of the recent Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee plenum were received by the vast majority of the republic's Communists and working people as justified and right. That is true. But listening to the remarks of certain leaders, in whose speeches one can (still!) hear blithe assurances of immediately solving all the problems posed by the restructuring, I could not help thinking: Do they realize that imposing elementary order in a city does not by any means amount to solving all the problems?

During those days hundreds of party and soviet workers, academics, and writers visited the students' and workers' collectives. They spoke with the young people openly and honestly, helped them to grasp the nature of what had happened, and answered the questions which were most important at the time for the willing and unwilling participants in the disorders, for those who were in tacit solidarity with them, and for the doubters.

Just under a month has passed, and some people already seriously believe that the light has dawned. I shared my doubts with some comrades. Some agreed: No, we cannot ease up. Others said: There is no point in stirring up sentiments with all kinds of explanatory work and reminding people about what happened, surely it is better to "strengthen," "revive," and "activate" simply in the normal course of work... I can hear in this view a clear echo of yesterday's approach, the desire to live by the cunning principle: "If we don't talk about it, that means it doesn't exist here."

Nonetheless the problems exist, however hard some people may try to oversimplify the nature of what happened. And the work goes on.

Many have already been punished: expelled from the Komsomol, dismissed from the VUZ for unlawful actions. Legal proceedings have been instituted against others for malicious hooliganism and for organizing mass disorders.

Of course, it is necessary to show the utmost persistence in seeking out the leaders and organizers of the disorders, the instigators. But something else worries many people. In the city, and now not only there, all kinds of rumors are circulating and all kinds of discussions are in progress about what happened -- different versions are being concocted and apparently seemly explanations for nationalist demonstrations are being thought up.

The prosecutor's office, the militia, and newspaper editorial offices are receiving telephone calls. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA's Kazakhstan office is also receiving calls. People are indignant, they want those to blame for the events to be found and exposed.

In connection with the appeals to our office, I met with Kazakh SSR Prosecutor G.B. Yelemisov. Incidentally, the last time I saw Galim Bazhimovich was in the afternoon of 17 December, facing a crowd, when he spent some 2 hours calling the rampaging hooligans to order and patiently explaining to them the unlawful nature of their actions. And the hooligans were chucking stones at him...

"Galim Bazhimovich, what comments can you make on these events?

"The public has had sufficiently full information to understand what happened objectively. But that is what happens: Every event leaves a trail of rumors. Some people spread them through narrowminded thoughtlessness, but others are different. I believe the organizers of these disorders are deliberately propagating 'dramatic details' in the hope of whipping up nationalist sentiments among certain immature young people. This is being done by those who have not accepted the restructuring, who do not want to live in openness and honesty, who are in a panic in case what was secret yesterday might become openly known today. Seeking to postpone exposure, they urged young people to take to the streets. Today we are thinking of going back to certain old criminal cases and studying them in the context of recent events: We have reason to believe that this work will not be wasted. These are the facts: Nationalistically minded elements came into direct conflict with workers from the law and order service. As already reported, there were a good man [nemalo] wounded among militia workers and the volunteer people's militia. One member of the volunteer people's militia -- 28-year-old television center worker S.A. Savitskiy -- was killed. The culprits were arrested. The investigation continues. There were no casualties among the rioters. In addition to the facts cited above, I will say that persons in aggressive mood rampaged for more than 10 hours, totally ignoring all the demands of the republic prosecutor's office and Ministry of Internal Affairs. So to call into question today the rightfulness of the measures adopted is to pursue quite specific, very evil goals..."

On the day I spoke with the republic prosecutor, Zh.A. Sabitova, a teacher at an Alma-Ata school for young workers, was sentenced in Alma-Ata for making a placard and pamphlets of provocative content and using them to try to kindle internation enmity and incite young people to unlawful actions. The court found her guilty and sentenced her to 5 years' imprisonment. Now she herself admits her guilt.

Order is being resolutely imposed in the republic. The supply of food products to the population has improved. Other measures are being taken to normalize the social climate. In partuclar, the task has been set of handing over to children's and medical institutions all cottages and hunting lodges built at one time for receiving high-ranking guests, and to distribute guest apartments at enterprises and the reserve housing stock of leaders of departments to people who urgently need housing.

It was said at a conference of the republic party aktiv on 3 January that it is necessary to eradicate all kinds of telephone calls and transparent hints from leaders and people close to them, which amount to nothing less than veiled favoritism and the willingness without fail to do a return favor when the occasion arises as far as your official position permits. We must resolutely eradicate the principle "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours." And for the benefit of those who might, through old habit, regard this as just another well-meaning appeal, the following information has been transmitted through party channels: The slightest abuse of official position will speedily entail dismissal from work and expulsion from the party. [paragraph continues]

The telephones at the trade bases are relaxing after many years of highly intensive work...

The republican Communist Party Central Committee plenum held the other day stressed once again that today the main criterion for any leader is the ability to work with people and lead them, the capacity to know and understand their interests and mood.

....From early morning, lines form at the newspaper kiosks, because something worth reading, something worth thinking about has appeared in the local newspapers. And people are reading, thinking, and drawing conclusions.

GROUP SET UP TO STUDY KAZAKH PUBLIC OPINION

PM131617 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 87 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Public Opinion"]

[Text] The careful study of working people's criticisms and constructive proposals and the fuller consideration of their opinions, interests, and demands now assume special importance. Painstaking work by party and public organizations in this direction will make it possible to determine zones for vigorous action more accurately, to accelerate the restructuring of all areas of our life, and to reveal and eliminate negative phenomena more rapidly. To this end a group for the study of public opinion has been set up under the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Section. It includes party and soviet personnel, sociologists, representatives of a number of republic ministries and departments and public organizations, and press personnel. The group is generalizing vitally important questions on the basis of working people's letters and statements to party committees and newspaper, radio, and television editorial offices and of questions put to lecturers at meetings and is carrying out sociological surveys. An analysis of public opinion and an announcement regarding projected measures to solve acute problems in the republic's socioeconomic development will be published each week in the press.

The measures being taken in the republic to step up openness and further strengthening democracy are meeting with ardent support among all strata of the population. This is now finding vivid expression not only in approval of the policy pursued by party organizations but also in the social activeness of working people, who have begun to display a more principled and strict attitude toward negative phenomena and to raise questions more pointedly about urgent problems of socioeconomic development. An analysis of the letters and statements shows that more and more criticism is being evoked by instances of laxity in the struggle against deviations from the norms of the Soviet way of life, unearned income, all kinds of violations of labor and financial discipline, and drunkenness and alcoholism. The work of public transport, communications, and trade and consumer service enterprises is the object of the closest attention, distortions in people's behavior and way of life are pointedly criticized, and proposals are voiced for ridding ourselves still more resolutely of manifestations of protectionism, bureaucracy, and negligence.

Especially large numbers of complaints and expressions of dissatisfaction are prompted by the fact that for a number of years housing problems have been poorly resolved in the republic, there have been crude violations in the registration and allocation of housing, poor use has been made of the construction industry's reserves and labor collectives' potential, and the passion of certain leading personnel for constructing so-called guest houses has not been nipped in the bud. [paragraph continues]

The unsavory facts cited in the letters and statements of citizens from Alma-Ata, Karaganda, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kzyl-Orda, and a number of other oblast centers, cities, and villages in the republic were subjected to principled and constructive discussion at a conference at the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee.

The leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs have been told to make a careful study of the issues in question most speedily, before 1 March, to deliver reports in labor collectives, and to formulate a specific action program. They have been told to take working people's demands into account as fully as possible. The aim is this -- to sharply accelerate housing construction and to seek out additional reserves and potential. In particular, the following task has been set for Alma-Ata: providing housing in 1987-91 for needy people who have been on the waiting list for the last few years. The construction of housing in other regions of the republic will also be substantially accelerated. And in rural areas the aim for every sovkhoz and kolkhoz is to construct at least 20 well-appointed apartments with parcels of land and outbuildings as turnkey projects during the current 5-year plan.

In order to intensify housing construction it has been decided to make the fullest and most rational use of the funds earmarked for social development and to reprogram for these purposes an additional 10 percent from the production development fund. Concern must everywhere be shown for multishift working by construction industry enterprises and the further development of large-module [monolitnyy] housing construction. Fuller and wider use must also be made of the own-resources method of housing construction and people waiting to obtain housing must be involved as much as possible in finishing operations. Local soviet ispolkoms and trade union committees for their part must impose proper order in the registration and allocation of the housing stock and create a reliable barrier to any kinds of machinations and violations. The appropriate organs have been instructed to carry out a detailed investigation into the utilization of residences and guest houses. The task has been set of transferring all cottages and hunting lodges for the reception of distinguished visitors to use as children's or medical establishments and of allocating as housing to the needy guest apartments at enterprises and the reserve housing stock of department and enterprise leaders.

There are many criticisms and proposals for working people about problems of improving food supplies to the republic's cities and villages. In addition people request explanations: Are there reserves for sharply improving food supplies to the population and what channels will be used to increase deliveries of meat, dairy, and other products to the trade network? All aspects of this problem will soon be specially discussed at the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee. The press will carry information about the measures taken.

Working people's reaction to errors in the selection and placement of cadres and in their style of work has become sharper. Abuses of official position and violations of the norms of socialist morality are sharply condemned. There are great complaints about soviet deputies. "We vote for them," one letter says, "we give them instructions, and we are given promises, but after the elections they no longer want to meet with us and prefer to sit in their offices."

Some of the letters and statements about distortions in cadre policy, abuses, and deviations from the norms of party life are now being studied. Specific measures will be taken on every alert. There must be an end to the pernicious practice of "shuffling" errant personnel from post to post and filling posts without taking the specific nature of production into account, and particular attention must be paid to training the cadre reserve and to reports by leaders and ordinary Communists to primary party organizations.

In the republic's party committees, including raykoms, gorkoms, obkoms, and the Central Committee, it is planned to carry out an assessment of senior personnel, objectively considering their professional and political qualities, knowledge of the theory of party building, and practical ability to carry out restructuring in party work.

The style and methods of work of the local soviet elective personnel, tasks in fundamentally restructuring it, and questions of increasing the fruitfulness and improving the management of the entire process of the socioeconomic development of labor collectives and regions of the republic will be seriously discussed in the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers.

The letters and statements regarding specific shortcomings in the work of law enforcement organs and higher and secondary educational establishments, the poor supply of basic foodstuffs and necessities to the population, and abuses of official position have been passed to Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee sections so that they can examine them and take measures.

Representatives of all nations and nationalities living in the republic sharply criticize the nationalist onslaughts by groups of young hooligans that took place in Alma-Ata. Many writers of letters to party organs apologize for the unworthy behavior of some Kazakh young people and express the confidence that this will not recur. According to public opinion, the events were the result of phenomena of stagnation and of the lack of criticism and self-criticism, democratic, norms, and openness. The disproportions in the national composition of the student body are mentioned as one reason. People note serious defects in the selection of teachers and the manifestations of protectionism and bribe taking still occurring in the republic's educational establishments. Wishes are expressed for the vigorous restructuring of mass political work among students and young workers, the strengthening of international education, the further improvement of practices in the study of public opinion, and the timely exposure of various rumors, fantasies, and immature views.

FURTHER DETAILS ON DOLGIKH VISIT TO GOMEL OBLAST

LD082001 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 8 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report over video by A. Zhuk from Gomel Oblast]

[Text] [Announcer] Today Comrade Dolgikh visited rayons of Gomel Oblast situated in the vicinity of Chernobyl AES. [video shows street scenes in village, with snow falling, people in streets, some sweeping snow and drawing water from well]

[Zhuk] The freezing winter has hardly interrupted the usual round of life in this part of the world. Under the guidance of party and local-government organizations, people are continuing their purposeful and varied work to eliminate the consequences of the breakdown at Chernobyl. Five thousand houses have already been built for the population evacuated from the area of the AES. At the same time the opportunity has arisen to begin the re-activation of people who abandoned their native regions.

For example, the inhabitants of 12 settlements in Braginskiy rayon, have returned home. Today, Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh visited southern rayons of Gomel Oblast. At the center of attention were questions of further implementation of large-scale measures aimed at decontamination of the locality and providing the population with everything they need. [video shows Dolgikh and entourage including Slyunkov and Shcherbina walking in street, and halting to talk to group of citizens]

Comrade Dolgikh met with residents of the rayon, and enquired about the conditions of their life and work.

[Begin video recording] [Dogikh] Well then, you people of Braginskiy Rayon seem to have come through all right in the end.

[Unidentified woman] We're tough people.

[Dolgikh] Indeed you are.

[Second unidentified woman] And hard workers.

[Dolgikh] But the worst of it is already behind us. Now things are improving. We're keeping matters under control. So the situation is developing favorably. And how's the mood here?

[Unidentified woman] The mood couldn't be better.

[Dolgikh] And how are you off for supplies?

[Woman] Fine so far. [video in crowd shout: All right. Good. Good]

[Dolgikh] You have the most essential things?

[Several voices] Yes, we have.

[Dolgikh] Well, that's very good. Our Belorussia has always been in the forefront.

[Slyunkov] We'll keep moving forward.

[Dolgikh] We'll keep moving forward.

[Slyunkov] At the present rate.

[Dolgikh] And is everything all right in your schools and kindergartens?

[Unidentified woman] Yes.

[Dolgikh] Well, that's very good. Warm greetings to you from Moscow, from the party Central Committee, from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

[Unidentified woman] Thank you. Give them our greetings.

[Dolgikh] Of course.

[Unidentified man] And wish them happiness and health.

[Dolgikh] And all the best to you. [end video recording]

[Announcer] With Comrade Dolgikh in Gomel oblast were Comrade Slyunkov, Comrade Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Comrade Kamay, first secretary of the Gomel obkom.

CPSU'S YELTSIN ADDRESSES LAW, ORDER MEETING

LD132327 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The results of work on strengthening socialist legality, law, and order in 1986 were examined at a conference of representatives of party, Soviet, Komsomol, and law enforcement bodies of Moscow. Special attention was drawn to the need for radically improving the work with cadres, raising efficiency of district militia inspectors, and creating a comprehensive system for the prevention of violations of law by young people. Taking part in the conference was Comrade Vlasov, USSR minister of internal affairs. Comrade Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom spoke at the conference.

PAPER BLAMES FORMER OFFICIALS FOR PROBLEMS

LD301410 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The newspaper MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, MOSCOW NEWS, has laid the blame for the problems the Soviet Union came to face in the late 70's and early 80's largely on many former party and government officials. This also relates to the (?latest) years of activity of the previous general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Leonid Brezhnev. The newspaper published a detailed answer to a Spanish reader who expressed concern over acute criticism which he thinks might be harmful to the Soviet Union. A major reason for the shortcomings that occurred in those times was the lowered rates of economic development, the paper says. The old methods of leadership became outdated while the search for new ones was hindered by dogmatism. Economic problems led to abuses in social justice and to the spread of self-satisfaction and a sense of permissiveness. In the meantime the understanding that changes were necessary continued to mature among the party and the people.

In April of 1985, the party's Central Committee held a plenary session where this understanding was reflected in a program worked out for stepping up the country's social and economic progress, for updating economic management, and for democratizing public life.

LENINABAD OBKOM ELECTS MIRKHALIKOV NEW SECRETARY

LD131629 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read report]

[Text] A plenum of the Leninabad Obkom of the Tajik Communist Party took place today. It examined an organizational issue. The plenum released Comrade Khodzhiyev from his duties of first secretary of the obkom in connection with his retirement. Comrade Mirkhalikov who had been a secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, was elected first secretary of the Leninabad Obkom. Taking part in the work of the plenum was Comrade Makhkanov, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee.

TAJIK AKTIV DISCUSSES INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

LD130956 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1400 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Tasks of party, local soviet, trade union and economic bodies in strengthening discipline and organization and enhancing responsibility for ensuring safety in production were discussed at a meeting of the Tajik party and economic aktiv today.

Makhkamov, first secretary of the Republican Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report on this matter. It was noted that the state of measures for the protection of labor and for accident prevention is giving rise to serious concern. Many accidents and other incidents are still occurring at enterprises, in construction, the agro-industrial complex and transport that result in significant material losses and damage to people's health.

The bodies of the State Inspectorate and the technical inspectorates of trade unions are lax in their use of the rights granted to them for bringing pressure to bear on officials when the requirements for accident prevention are breached. Party committees are not monitoring sufficiently the work of communists working in various organizations for fulfilling the decisions directed at ensuring safe conditions at work.

Participants at the meeting voiced a number of specific proposals for strengthening discipline and organization and stepping up technical monitoring for averting accidents during roduction. Ministries and departments have been set the task of drawing up and implementing a package of organizational and technical measures to enhance safety and improve conditions at work.

CASE OF TAMBOV OBKOM SECRETARY INVESTIGATED

PM141015 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 January 1987 First Edition carries on page 2 under the headline "Metamorphosis. Leafing Through the Party Obkom Secretary's Personal File" a 2,800-word article, datelined Tambov, by its special correspondent T. Bondarenko.

The article begins with two boxed excerpts from a deposition dated 5 December 1986 and a rebuttal statement dated 6 December 1986, reading as follows:

"'At his request, I took a report to him in the evening. That was at about 2230 hours. He opened the door and I went in. I saw snacks laid on the table. After some small talk, he offered me vodka and I refused. He became more persistent in his offers. As I refused again, he drank by himself. I could not open the door because he had locked it and would not let me out.... I tried to push him away.... When he realized that I would scream he backed off (that was when I noticed that he was totally drunk), and when I tried to get up he struck me three times in the face. 5 December 1986.'

"'I can report as follows regarding the incident at the Rossiya Hotel. Comrade... did indeed bring me some documents in the evening, sometime between 2200 and 2300 hours. Neither intercourse nor attempts to persuade her to engage in such activity took place. Witness my signature. 6 December 1986.'"

Bondarenko goes on to describe how N.P. Korotkov, chairman of the Tambov Obkom's Party Conbrol Commission, was contacted by telephone by obkom First Secretary Ye.M. Podolskiy to notify him of an "Emergency Situation" which had developed. Podolskiy and obkom Second Secretary V.A. Nesterov were at that time in Moscow attending the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session. Bondarenko reveals that Nesterov was involved in the "Emergency," having "Behaved improperly and beaten about the face" young worker G.M., who was one of the group of Tambov Oblast deputies.

Bondarenko continues with a description of people's inability to believe that Nesterov could have behaved in this manner, and mentions his "Meteoric rise" from raykom first secretary to obkom second secretary in 1984. Bondarenko also reports that "two of Nesterov's friends" called on the young worker to "persuade her" not to make a statement.

The author writes at length about Nesterov's career, contrating his great popularity in early years with his gradual withdrawal from people and lack of friends as he climbed up the career ladder.

Having briefly outlined a conversation she had with V.V. Kolodin, member of the obkom bureau and one of the RSFSR supreme soviet deputies who were in Moscow at the time of the incident, centering on party-mindedness and principledness, Bondarenko ends her article:

"The second secretary of the party obkom was unanimously expelled from the CPSU ranks."

FIRST SECRETARY ADDRESSSES AZERBAIJAN AKTIV

LD132244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] A meeting of Azerbaijan's party and economic aktiv was held in Azerbaijan today. The participants discussed the results of last year's work and their socialist pledges for 1987. It was noted that the further intensification of social production and growth of labor productivity will continue to be attained on the basis of technical reequipment, and strengthening of discipline and good order.

Comrade Bagirov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, delivered a report.

GRODNO OBKOM CHIEF ON LOCAL SOVIET SHORTCOMINGS

PM121253 [Editorial Report] Msocow PRAVDA in Russian 6 January 1987 First Edition carries on page 2 a 1,200 word report by L. Kletskov, first secretary of the Grodno Belorussian Communist Party Obkom, under the heading "Obliged by Trust" on problems relating to party leadership fo the work of local soviets. Noting positive achievements in this respect, he observes that "the organizational work of ispolkoms, standing commissions, and deputies has more frequently begun to be transferred to labor collectivs and to be more closely related to resolving practical tasks." However, although soviet organs are usually staffed by "the most authoritative, experienced people who are capable organizers and skilled educators," he notes, "speaking self-critically, it must be admitted that there are serious shortcomings in cadre work." "Without relieving the party obkom of its reponsibility," he continues, " I will note that some of the oblast's party committees are undiscriminating in their selection and nomination of people for soviet work, do not always make a principled party appraisal of wrong action by leaders, and sometimes turn a blind eye to their improper conduct.

It is precisely for these reasons that V. Yuskevich, deputy chairman of the Shchuchinskiy Rayispolkom; I. Yevtukh, chief of the Oshmyanskiy Zheleznyuk, rural soviet chairmen; and some others embarked on the slippery slope of abusing their official position. They have all incurred strict party punishment and been released from their positions." he concludes.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS STEEL PLANT ACCIDENT, INQUIRY

LD1101236 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2330 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] In this bulletin we have a report from Cherepovets in Vologda Oblast. The Cold or Irresponsibility -- that is what its authors have entitled it.

On the night of 4-5 January, before the very eyes of steel workers, frozen with horror, the first unit of the converter shop at the Cherepovets Metallurgical Combine suddenly tipped over and 300 metric tons of steel that was almost ready for pouring came pouring to the ground. No, thanks to a happy accident, there were no victims -- there were no people in the danger zone. But the huge pancake of spreading metal flooded the approaches, destroying them. And the converter turned out to be useless.

That was only the first consequence of the accident, which now in official documents will be known as the self-tipping over of a convertor. The secondary consequences, we shall try to determine today. Since the second converter at that time was in for running repairs, the shop floor stopped. It was necessary urgently to switch to a less intensive regimes of blast and rolled production. The combine lost 35 thousand metric tons of metall. The tertiary losses -- that is the expense of eliminating the accident -- will be calcluated later.

The reason for what happened are being elucidated now by a special commission of the USSR ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy that has arrived at the combine. It will deliver its verdict later. Meanwhile, an attempt, all beit preliminary, may be made to find an answer to the question that today troubles the entire town. It is only the fierce cold that should be blamed for the accident? A characteristic detail: the enterprise's chief experts have refused to talk to TASS correspondents about their thoughts. But conversations with steel workers have helped at least in part, to reconstruct the situation immediately before the accident. In recent years, the race for high marks had blunted the sense of responsibility among the shop's leadership for the fate of production, and even elementary care. Maintenance repair of equipment was neglected so blatantly that breakdowns occurred one after another, leading to accidents.

In September, at the insistence of the oblast's branch trade union, (Zhaboronkov), the shop supervisor, was removed, but clearly this did not serve as an example to the new leadership. True, a program for winter preparation was worked out, but one of its main points -- an inspection of the shop's electrical equipment -- remained unfulfilled. Had it not been for the severe frosts, perhaps everything would have been all right -- for some time. But, as the saying goes, the lightning struck. Because of defects in the electric wiring system of the converter, there was a false connection in one of the relays, and the unit toppled over of its own accord. In other words, the cold merely provoked the accident, which struck at a weak spot. But the cold was not to blame for such a spot being there. Let us wait -- the real culprits will be named by the commission.

Fortunately for the enterprise, the metallurgists did everything possible, and even the impossible, to keep the scale of the misfortune to a minimum. That same night there was a meeting to consider how to eliminate the consequences of the accident. The steel workers and the workers who came to their aid from other shops are now breaking the mass into pieces; special cranes are smashing them into pieces that are being bulldozed. At the same time, the approach paths are being reconstructed. But the experts in the departments of the chief mechanic and chief power engineering specialist are prodding the equipment, searching for other weak spots. The workers in the dining hall are in place, bringing food and hot tea to the work places. That is how it was for almost 2 days: 40 hours without sleep or rest. Yesterday, the first converter again produced metal. Furthermore, under the circumstances the metallurgists managed to find a reserve to wipe out the debt of 35 thousand metric tons of lost metal. They completed the repair of the second converter 2 days early, so that it, too, will start up.

This report was broadcast from Cherepovets.

LATVIA'S PUGO INTERVIEWED ON KOMSOMOL AFFAIRS

PM071017 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jan 87 pp 1-2

[Interview with B.K. Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Youth Affairs Commission, by Special Correspondents V. Sungorkin and S. Stepenkov in Riga: "Learning Democracy"; date of interview not specified]

[Text] Riga -- [Correspondent] Boris Karlovich, a city Komsomol conference was held recently in Liyepaya. There were so many people anxious to speak that they went on talking until 0130...

[Pugo] I know. The talk was a thorough one. The nature of the conference is also borne out by the results of the elections: 154 delegates out of 524 voted against electing the first secretary to the new gorkom.

[Correspondent] Although, we were told, his candidacy had been agreed on beforehand for a new term...

[Pugo] But the Komsomol members proposed and elected someone else at the plenum -- Aleksandr Yudenkov, secretary of the metallurgical plant Komsomol committee. He has been Komsomol primary organization organizer, has served his time in the army, and is now on an institute correspondence course, but the main thing is that the young people themselves consider him to be a real leader.

[Correspondent] It looks as though you have a detailed knowledge of the Liyepaya story. Because it was an "extraordinary occurrence?"

[Pugo] I would not call it an "extraordinary occurence." Although there have been no similar instances involving first secretaries I do not think that is the crux of the matter. The Komsomol is elected following a well-worn path. In the morose and semisomnolent state, in the indifference which we have all observed at those same Komsomol forums -- the people in the auditorium read a book surreptitiously or doze while the next speaker is muttering from the rostrum something which has been "checked out" a hundred times and cleansed to the state of distilled water and then they vote unanimously without thinking what they are voting for.

This year it was not only in Liyepaya that it got hot. At the Kirovskiy Rayon Komsomol conference the discussion took such a turn that it seemed the first secretary would have to resign: He had failed to do this and failed to consider that and had failed to visit somewhere or other. But Ziyedonis Chevers is a strong-willed man and he seized the initiative: "Let's see who is to blame for what. Today you are criticizing me with clever words but remember how I tried to get help from you. And from you. There is no trick to turning a secretary into a scapegoat but it is better that we consider together what to do next." He was reelcted by an absolute majority.

The trouble with many people is that the have become so accustomed to goig unchallenged that they have absolutely no skills of argument or persuasion. Previously there somehow seemed not even to be any need to learn this: "There is an opinion on the subject, comrades", "the question was been agreed on from above" -- and there were no problems.

[Correspondent] And if we are to sum up the "Liyepaya lesson" it remains to be added that this incident confirms that we cannot tolerate excessive organization and faith in the omnipotence of the questionnaire.

[Pugo] Regarding the questionaire, you have in mind Yudenkov's lack of higher education?

[Correspondent] Yes. Ivars Priyeditis, first secretary of the Latvian Komsomol Central Committee, told us sadly: "Now they will start criticizing us for approving a secretary without a diploma." So we will still consider this incident to be an exception to the rule or else it is time to change the rule itself to look at questionnaire sections... well, perhaps that would be simpler?

[Pugo] I believe that at their congress the Komsomol members themselves should discuss this problem and decide what requirements their leaders must comply with. I would not like to impose my own opinion, let them weigh up everything for themselves. Of course, it is better that a raykom secretary should be young, should have higher education and experience of productionwork, and should have been tempered in Komskomsomol work... But what can you do, if a good candidate in every respect has one line in his questionnaire form which "didn't fit?"

[Correspondent] Someone else in your position would say in such a situation: "He won't get in! Procedure is procedure. Does that mean the others are weaker? You are looking in the wrong place!" In the end, to prevent a conflict from arising, they will push through "to the gorkom" a person whose only merit is his questionnaire form. You yourself may have said a year or 2 ago: "Look for a man with a diploma?"

[Pugo] Perhaps. Perhaps we have all changed in the past year or 2. But I would like to argue the point but to specify principled positions. We must fight excessive organization mercilessly. Democracy is not synonymous with chaos. The same thing applies to "agreements." After all, the primary meaning of this concept is most progressive: seeking an agreement. And why indeed should the Komsomol not have a prior consultation with senior, more experienced comrades on a particular candidacy? It is another matter when we somehow contrive to take anything good to extremes and thus destroy it. If we have set about organizing something then it goes as far as the duration of the applause and if we do agree on something then we can also take it to the point of absurdity in a trice.

[Correspondent] What to do?

[Pugo] Learn democracy. Incidentally, we did not agree in advance on the subject of our conversation. Learning to live under the conditions of democracy is one of the most important requriements of restructuring. Literally everyone needs to learn this. But particulary the leaders, beginning withthe Komsomol organizer and the rural council chairman.

Extremes of any kind are the result of the bureaucratic solution of problems. The people's real control of the management apparatus' actions, the people's self-management, the consideration of public opinion and the possibility of expressing different viewpoints and openly discussing any problem -- in brief, everything which is called democracy -- that is what will make hitches in building the communist society impossible and open up the broadest opportunities for acceleration. Yet some zealous leader thinks up something in his office, exclusively in people's interests, of course, and does not even think of asking their opinion. As a result with one bold stroke of the pen settlements are called "unpromising" and wiped from the face of the earth, new settlements are constructed where people do not want to live and, with the best of intentions, rules are thought up which cause only trouble.

Life has put such champions of the people's welfare to shame. There is a medicine for this disease -- real independence and responsibility to the collective.

We in Latvia have embarked in earnest on the following course: ensuring that as many leaders as possible are not appointed but elected with the working people's participation. The "Kommutator" association was the first to decide on this -- they began to elect team leaders and foremen. The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee supported this undertaking. At the "Radiotekhnika" plant it is not only the foremen but also the chiefs of many shops who have now been elected. In Daugavpils the director of the construction materials plant was elected from two candidates. And at another enterprise there was a meeting of the veterans council and the public and the question was put to the party committee thus: We have no worthy candidate to replace the director, let's announce a competition for "outsiders." V.A. Dubrovskiy, former chief of the tram administration, was elected director. These leaders work far better than those merely appointed by decree and they are more attentive to the collective's needs. In general we are trying to expand and expand the new system. The rector of the republican agricultural academy was recently elected with the participation of all faculties and departments by secret ballot from a list of five candidates.

[Correspondent] Competition also opens up good opportunities for young people: to try their strength in honest rivalry, to show their qualities without waiting for someone "from above" to notice you, a young man.

[Pugo] Of course.

[Correspondent] But what if, for instance, a team or shop is afraid to elect someone who is young and is really the most suitable person: He has a great deal of energy, they say, he will start introducing all kinds of scientific stuff and set about restructuring. Let's promote Yan Yanych, who is due to retire soon. He's no genius, but he won't start causing unnecessary trouble.

[Pugo] So here the Komsomol committee must also display initiative -- persuade the collective of the need for a young leader if an interesting candidacy has indeed arisen.

[Correspondent] Incidentally, in the Komsomol too it was in Riga, at the Valsts electrical equipment plant, that for the first time in the country several nominations for the plant Komsomol committee secretaries were put forward. Then this idea was taken up at the Volga Truck Plant and in Noyabrsk City, Tyumen Oblast. But what is curious is that it was at the Valsts electrical equipment plant that the Komsomol members were initially so dubious and put up so many bureaucratic "arguments..."

[Pugo] But what do you want? The rut is a deep one, we have been traveling in it for so many years, it is difficult and frightening to get out of it -- then suddenly at a curve in the road it throws you into the gutter. But you have to crawl out. How? I was told that we had the following incident recently. A man was appointed to a new post and a few days later he was met by his predecessor: Well, were the notes I passed on to you useful? They include all resolutions and drafts for 10 years, brother." Well no, his successor shrugged, I had a quick look through them and consigned them to the archives. Was it a shocking incident, this reluctance to use past experience and traditions? Yet I wondered whether it was also perhaps time to throw out something. Continuity is something scared. But the habit of checking against the spirit and letter of a paper from the year before last and the temptation simply to rewrite an old document, merely changing the date and recipients and names, sometimes has a stifling effect and prevents renewal. [article continues]

I remember a stormy Komsomol meeting: Everyone was anxious to break down what was obsolete. It reached the point of the resolution -- a businesslike and pointed draft seemed to have been worked out, what comments would there be? One man took the floor: This point should be set out so. Another man, then another, then another stood up -- they made sound amendments. Finally an experienced Komsomol worker rose and announced teasingly: Comrades, now the resolution reiterates last year's word for word!

[Correspondent] The 27th party congress deemed it essential to expand the range of issues which state organs can resolve only with the Komsomol's participation or prior agreement. In particular there was talk of giving the Komsomol the right to suspend managerial decisions affecting young people. What is your opinion of this problem?

[Pugo] That until a legislative initiative there are no particular problems here. Through the Komsomol Central Committee any raykom can put proposals to the legislative organs. But it seems to me that this is not the most vitally important question now. We must find out why young men and women do not turn to the Komsomol committees for help in obtaining housing and improving working conditions and on questions of study and daily life... Why do they go straightaway to the trade union committee, party committee, and administration? Because the Komsomol does not always have the power to help. And this is one of the consequences of the substantial gaps in legislation on the implementation of the Komsomol's rights. A law on the socialist enterprise is now being prepared -- it should clearly define the powers, rights, and obligations of the enterprises' Komsomol organizations. It will be not simply a declarative document but a standard-setting, specific one. But I should like to advise the Komsomol committees that it is not worth hoping that the document will be all-powerful. Those Komsomol committees are right which do not wait for future resolutions, do not explain their powerlessness by "gaps in the law" but embark on close contacts with the administration and the trade union organizations and confirm not with papers but with real deeds their authority and ability to influence the course of affairs.

[Correspondent] Boris Karlovich, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA has opened a special rubric for readers entitled "from the congress rostrum I would have spoken about..." Many letters are coming in and there are numerous suggestions that the 20th Komsomol Congress discuss why the Komsomol at present admits one and all virtually indiscriminately.

[Pugo] You know, at our Komsomol report conferences in Latvia this year this has also been the most "popular" question.

[Correspondent] You have been Komsomol raykom and gorkom secretary and secretary of the republic Komsomol Central Committee and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee. An old problem? Or is this a new phenomenon?

[Pugo] When I was a Komsomol raykom secretary the task was set of increasing the republican organization to 200,000 members. But even now I would not venture to call that a purely bureaucratic action. Because in the Latvia of that time (in the fifties -- the last gang had not yet been wiped out) the very fact of belonging to the Komsomol could not be formal. When you joined it meant you were already a courageous person prepared to battle for your convictions. But later, considerably later, a kind of unpleasant period began, and there was unhealthy competition to see who had the highest percentage of Komsomol members. People were praised or reprimanded for this figure and for the figure alone. And they could not stop.

[Correspondent] The fact that until recently there was an attempt not to discuss openly the problem of percentage mania in the Komsomol and the youth press itself was silent obviously had an effect.

[Pugo] Obviously that is so. We would reassure ourselves: Surely it cannot harm anyone if not very worthy people are also admitted to the Komsomol? The organization would straighten them out, we said. But it is not for nothing that the young people themselves are now sounding the alarm everywhere. How this "mass admission" influences young people's souls if one person joins the Komsomol on the basis of his convictions and checks his actions against the rules' lofty requirements while another has to be almost roped in and in what respect this latter person is "progressive" no one can explain, however much they may wish to. And this occurs at a most impressionable age, when a person's individual qualities and moral criteria are being shaped. And then, we wonder where so many cynics, liars, and hypocrites come from. I think the roots of the problem lie in the fact that the Komsomol has let itself become bureaucratic. If there is a committee and the secretary's personal fate depends on the opinion of the organization's rank and file members, the desire arises to work in an interesting and enthralling manner and young people will then be drawn to the Komsomol from all sides.

At present Komsomol workers are frequently admonished for careerism. Yet of itself the desire for professional and official growth can only be welcomed. It is another matter if the promotion of an elected worker depends exclusively on the disposition of higher-ranking bodies -- it is here that the soil arises for "figure mania," "record mania," and all kinds of outward show. Democratization will make it possible to call both things and people by their names.

[Correspondent] Boris Karlovich, in our talks we have not once heard the popular formula: "I will tell you on condition you don't print it." Thank you. But you know what frequently happens is not that a leader is afraid of making public his thoughts on and assessment of what has happened by that many ministries and departments conceal the most innocuous information behind the "for official use" stamp. The desire to conceal absolutely everything from a casual glance is so uncontrollable that it reaches the point of absurdity.

[Pugo] And we know of these complexities. That is why we are fighting for the expansion of openness, criticism, and self-criticism. The republic's television and radi and above all newspapers are helping us actively here.

The republican SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH was perhaps the first local newspaper to undertake "difficult" subjects like the struggle against drug addiction and prostitution and to conduct a frank conversation on intimate relations in young families.

[Pugo] Only let's agree not to reduce the tremendous importance of expanding openness to "intimate relations." Lenin used to say that we need a press "... which openly reveals all the sores of our economic life and which thus appeals to the working people's public opinion to heal these sores. That is the main thing. Who will deny that journalists sometimes have a hard time of it." A SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH correspondent arrived at Riga's "Layma" factory to check a critical letter and party bureau secretary Maksimova gave the order: Don't let him in! The Porletarskiy party raykom looked into the matter: A. Maksimov was severly reprimanded. A local television team arrived to investigate heat losses at a diesel plant and the party committee secretary and chief engineer essentially threw the journalists out of the lobby, citing something in the nature of "state secrets." The boys did not lose their heads but recorded the entire "scene" on film and showed it to me. It was decided to broadcast the subject and to take steps with regard to the leaders.

The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee adopted a special resolution on expanding openness in the republic. In general we are creating an atmosphere in which it will be impossible to impede the "revelation of sores" with impunity.

And another thing. It may be considered that people have learned to say out loud "that is bad," but that is no longer enough. Now it is vitally necessary that young people should say: "I make a proposal." SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH set about organizing an autonomous club for boys which would exist only on the funds earned by the young people themselves.

[Correspondent] And one last thing, Boris Karlovich. You remember that 2-3 years ago people liked to ask in an interview: "What is your attitude toward young people today?" In the spirit of the time and our talk today, permit us to enquire: "How do you personally communicate with young people?" Do you frequently attend plenums and the bureau of the Komsomol Central Committee?

[Pugo] If I were to go there often I fear the young people would totally lose the independence for whose lack we are so concerned today. And to be honest sitting in at a Komsomol plenum and communicating with young people are unfortunately not always one and the same thing.

[Correspondent] Do you go to discotheques?

[Pugo] I just knew you would ask. What is this, a fashionable "pointed" question to put to a leader right now? In the Supreme Soviet recently we were listening to an oblispolkom chairman. Well, one of the deputies also put the discotheque question to him. The chairman stroked the back of his head -- he was an elderly comrade and very stout -- and hesitated before saying: "I have been very busy with other things in the past few months. So I haven't been." Frankly, the problem of informal communication with young people exists for many leaders.

[Correspondent] But do you feel a need for such communication?

[Pugo] I should think so! You mustn't lose touch. You can't understand young people without it. I was watching a performance by a newly emerged "star." I didn't like it. I was dubious: Surely this wasn't really culture. I asked Raymond Pauls for his opinion. He said: "I can sense a talent!" And perhaps Pauls was right? The Beatles too were once unrecognized yet now their music is considered good, almost old-fashioned. I recently met with young artists. The day before they had exhibited their pictures at the Political Enlightenment Center and some of them seemed at first sight to be "wrong" and "beside the point." But I spoke with the painters. I went from canvas to canvas with them. And I saw the pictures and the artists themselves in a different way. They were seeking something new. They were all very clever people, thinking people -- historians and philosophers at the same time. I had a very interesting time with them. They were people who were not indifferent to life around them. And curiously enough the more avant-gardism their works contained, the stronger their language -- they obviously frequently had to defend themselves and so their weapons had been forged in polemics. I recently visited the construction workers at our creamery in Riga -- we drank tea together, took a look at their business, had a good talk, and exchanged opinions on life. I myself felt younger. Failing to communicate with young people, failing to keep track of their problems means being behind the times.

SEVERE WINTER CONDITIONS CONTINUE 'SURPRISES'

European Area

LD121817 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1708 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow 12 Jan (TASS) -- In the European part of the Soviet Union the present harsh winter is continuing to produce surprises.

Today, as the winter school holidays came to an end, Leningrad children stayed at home because of severe freezing conditions and on the advice of doctors. Thermometer readings dropped to minus 35 degrees Celsius. Never before in the annals of Leningrad's weather service -- and weather observations have been taken here since 1743 -- have such record low temperatures been recorded in succession. Last night it was minus 40 degrees on the outskirts of the city and minus 45 in rural areas of the oblast. The cause of the sudden change in weather conditions is an unusually stong incursion of cold arctic air from high polar latitudes into Northern Europe.

In the south of the European part of the USSR, in the Transcauscasian Republic of Georgia, aircraft have been used to transport children to school. Many population centers have been cut off from the outside world as a result of the snowfalls which have been without precedent here over the past 50 years. Hundreds of school children have been removed from the mountain ski center of Gidauri, where they were spending the winter holidays with their parents. At some villages snowdrifts have demolished houses and damaged power lines. Figures show that 29 people have died up to today. Search and rescue work is continuing. Arrangements have been made to provide the population with food, medicines, fuel and everything needed, and help is being given to casualties. Communications and power supplies are being restored.

Yaroslavl Transport Halted

LD100710 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Severe frost in Yaroslavl has caused stoppages in town transport work, our correspondent (Yuriy Chernyak) reports. These days the mercury in the thermometer is falling to minus 45 degrees [Centigrade] in the oblast, and the transport workers are taking all possible steps to prevent stoppages of vehicular traffic. At the (Yaroslavlavtotrans) Association, (Vladimir Dmitriyevich Baranov), the head of the association, says an emergency headquarters is operating round-the-clock, coordinating all transport work. Many buses have not endured the low temperatures and have left the routes. The diesel fuel in them is freezing, as are the heating systems. Industrial enterprises have allocated departmental transport for carrying passengers. It operates more reliably in extreme conditions. Special routes for buses direct to the entrances of industrial enterprises on the evening shift have been organized. In addition, on off days service cars will travel the routes, working according to the taxi schedule. The number of emergency breakdown vehicles has been increased.

POLL SURVEYS PEOPLE'S VIEW OF RESTRUCTURING

LD131426 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- Asked what they thought about the restructuring of social and economic relations in the USSR, more than half of those polled said that people improved work and discipline.

The same number of people believed that political activity of the population enhanced.

The results of the sociological survey were given to a TASS correspondent by Soviet Professor Frants Sheregy.

"There is more optimism now," he said. "This shows that people not only approve of and back the restructuring of the country's social and economic life but are also prepared to take an active part in this effort."

The poll also showed that there were people who doubted the success of the reconstruction, who were passively waiting for its results and were pessimistic about its prospects.

Thirty per cent of the respondents expressed doubt that it would become possible to link wages to the marketing of products. About 70 per cent regarded this measure as timely and capable of improving the efficiency of production.

"The latter proceed from the premise that the linkage of wages to produced, rather than marketed items -- as the case was until now -- negatively affected the country's economy," Sheregiy said.

"Questions of accelerating the country's social and economic development," he pointed out, "have become vital for the absolute majority of Soviet people.

This is confirmed by the fact that problems of economic restructuring and intensification are constantly discussed in the families of 80 per cent of people polled during the sociological survey." [quote marks as received]

ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION MEMBERS NOTE 'SHORTCOMINGS'

LD092116 Moscow TASS in English 1908 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 9 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Ice Hockey Federation today qualified as unsatisfactory the performance of the USSR junior team at the recent world championship in Czechoslovakia.

The team lost to all of its main rivals and in the concluding game against Canada its players took part in a melee after which the game was stopped and discontinued. This behavior of the players was unanimously condemned.

Serious shortcomings in the work of the coaches of the junior team Vladimir Vasilyev and Valentin Gureyev, and also in the work of the ice hockey department of the State Committee for Sport and the Presidium of the USSR Ice Hockey Federation itself were noted in their statements at the meeting by members of the presidium and ice hockey specialists who were invited to the meeting.

The question of the performance of the Soviet junior team at the world championship will be discussed shortly at a meeting of the collegium of the USSR State Committee for Sport.

VORONIN ON 'ALARM' IN WINTER FUEL TRANSPORT

LD140927 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] A meeting was held today at the Ministry of Railways to make an operational analysis of the work of rail transport and enterprises which it is serving in the difficult winter conditions. This is what the participants' attention was drawn to by Lev Alekseyevich Voronin, USSR deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers:

[Begin Voronin recording] There is special cause for alarm in the ability to transport fuel and fuel reserves. Dissatisfaction is being especially caused by conditions in the transport of liquid petroleum products. There are petroleum products, that -- there are things to be moved -- but instead of having agreed, thought-out work, we blame each other, and as a result we fail to move 3,000 tanks a day. The second question, comrades, is the transport of coal. I must say that here things are a bit better than in the transport of liquid petroleum fuels. But all the same, we are unable to fulfill the plan on any single day. We have to move 2.07 million tonnes, but the maximum we move is 2 million -- and still, there is coal, piles of it. We'll certainly find reasons to blame each other, but not carry the coal.

The main thing today, comrades, in the work of the national economy, I mean of the railways and all industrial enterprises, is coordination and linking together in work. The main thing today is to raise the responsibility of every worker in his job for what has been entrusted to him. At the same time, I am asking oblispokoms to look at the work of enterprises of the state agro-industrial complex, which are not working in a stable manner in dispatching and handling goods.

Comrade Voyenushkin [minister of construction materials] here in the studio was very correct and just to criticize enterprises of the Ministry of Construction Materials. There are tens of thousands of wagons that, through the fault of this ministry, are today lying idle and not providing freight on the railways. Today there are many claims against the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy; Comrade Pankrushin and Comrade Kolpakov must draw the necessary conclusions. At the Magnitka metallurgical combine there are 40,000 tonnes of rolled metal still lying there as they were at the start of the month. At Nizhniy Tagil there are 23,000 tonnes. Altogether, at metallurgical combines today there are over 300,000 tonnes of rolled metal, lying there and not being moved.

Comrades, I want to draw you attention once again to the alarming position. This week must be breakthrough week: If we do not make the breakthrough this week, then it can be said right out that we can ruin the plan, not only for transport of freight, but in a number of industries of the national economy as a whole. I am asking you to take the very speediest measures. I wish you success. All the best. [end recording]

DEPUTY POWER MINISTER LUKIN ON FUEL SITUATION

PM131049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 87 First Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with V. Lukin, USSR deputy minister of power and electrification, by "our correspondent" V. Aleksandrov under the "Urgent Matters" rubric: "In the Power Stations' 'Granaries'"; date and place not stated; first two paragraphs are PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] The present record low temperatures which Grandfather Frost is setting over large expanses of our country from West to East are obliging everyone to get going. [paragraph continues]

Workloads have increased for the extractors of all types of fuel and the transport workers delivering fuel to consumers. The cold is demanding more punctilious work on the part of the power stations and district heating stations which supply our national economy and population with energy and fuel.

PRAVDA reported 11 January on the situation with regard to the delivery of coal to consumers by railroad. Today V. Lukin, USSR deputy minister of power and electrification, tells our correspondent how fuel oil and gas are reaching their destinations.

[Lukin] In the first 10 days of January the dispatch of fuel oil from the oil refineries was considerably behind schedule. In 10 days the thermal power stations received 170,000 metric tons less fuel oil than they needed under these extreme conditions.

[Aleksandrov] Which enterprises are disrupting the delivery of fuel oil and why?

[Lukin] In the first 8 days of January the "Groznefteorgsintez" association provided 28,000 metric tons less fuel oil than scheduled, while the "Kuybyshevnefteorgsintez" association was responsible for a shortfall of 18,000 metric tons and the "Orsknefteorgsintez" association for a shortfall of 16,000 metric tons. The dispatch of fuel oil has been held up mainly because the fuel production plan is being disrupted and there is a shortage of cisterns for shipping it. According to the figures of the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products, the Ufa petroleum refineries could dispatch more fuel oil, but there is a shortage of cisterns at the railroad sidings there. The same situation exists at the Perm petroleum refinery and the "Nizhnekamskneftekhim" association. There are fuel oil reserves at the Ukhta petroleum refinery.

[Aleksandrov] In which regions of the country have the most serious fuel situations been created?

[Lukin] Perhaps the gravest liquid fuel situation has taken shape at the power stations of the Armenian SSR. Every day 10,000 metric tons less fuel oil than is needed reaches here from Groznyy and Baku. Through your newspaper I should like to address the Azerbaijan petroleum workers: Only they can and must render prompt assistance to the neighboring republic's power workers.

The second "hot spot" is Estonia. There have been particularly severe frosts here for several days and fuel oil expenditure has almost doubled. But the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products at this difficult time has begun to let down the fuel oil suppliers. On 11 January fuel oil stocks had declined sharply at Estonia's thermal power stations. Some 3,500 metric tons are being consumed daily yet stocks have dropped to just 12,000 metric tons.

[Aleksandrov] And how are the gas pipelines along which natual gas reaches the power stations operating?

[Lukin] There is a decision to allocate the power workers an additional 2 billion cubic meters of gas in the first quarter. Some 800 million cubic meters of this figure are to be allocated in January. To fulfill this decision, the gas extraction workers must supply 26 million cubic meters daily over and above the plan. So far we are receiving only 8-10 million cubic meters over and above the plan.

The power workers and extractors of petroleum, coal, and gas are now urging all fuel and energy consumers to spend every kilowatt-hour of electricity, every cubic meter of gas, and every liter of fuel oil as economically as possible.

Well, we have just one request to make of our subcontractors, the rail transport workers: that they move all types of fuel through to the places where it is consumed as rapidly as possible.

POWER INDUSTRY COPING WITH 'WINTER'S TESTS'

PM131840 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 Jan 87 p 1

[Interview with A.A. Troitskiy, chief of the USSR Gosplan Power and Electrification Department, by correspondent L. Telen: "Power System: Cold Weather Test"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] This is not the first day that the mercury in Moscow thermometers has not risen above minus 20 degrees. There are frosts in the Ukraine, the Baltic republics, central Russia, and the lower Volga, and, of course, particularly severe frosts in Siberia, the Urals, and the Far North. But the figure of 50 hertz is being maintained steadily on an electric display board set up in the USSR Gosplan Power and Electrification Department. That is the frequency of the current in the USSR's Unified Power System. Specialists know that this figure is the best testimony that power workers are worthily standing up to this winter's tests. Our correspondent L. Telen met with A. Troitskiy, chief of the USSR Gosplan Power and Electrification Department.

[Telen] There is no denying that last year, 1986, was a difficult one for Soviet power generation. The Chernobyl tragedy, the drought in Central Asia, where there are many GES's, the fire at a GRES in Azerbaijan... How did power workers manage to cope with the difficulties and greet the cold winter weather fully armed?

[Troitskiy] Yes, hard trials fell to the power workers' lot. The Chernobyl AES was totally inoperative for 5 months, and its third and fourth reactor units have been mothballed. In addition, since the tragedy, additional work has been carried out to ensure safety at other AES's. Of course, the country's power generation encountered a whole number of difficulties when the accident happened. I will not hide the fact that we did not succeed in solving those questions in full during the first months after the accident. The power quality, for example, and, in particular, the current frequency indicator deteriorated noticeably. However, the situation stabilized as early as the beginning of October, that is, long before the onset of the cold weather. However, I wish to point out that even on the worst days the fluctuations in current quality were so insignificant that they did not affect the working of equipment, and not a single machine, including very "capricious" computers, went out of commission through power workers' fault.

Yes, there was also the fire at the Azerbaijan GRES and the drought in Central Asia, but those sad events did not affect the state of affairs in the country's Unified Power System. And we achieved that thanks to the prompt and competent connecting up of all reserves.

[Telen] Just what reserves do you mean, Artem Andreyevich?

[Troitskiy] Above all, the capacities of thermal electric power stations, which we succeeded in utilizing for the maximum return. Also the GES's in the European part of the country are working without interruption and not falling behind the plan.

[Telen] The Western press, particularly of late, has repeatedly voiced assumptions that Soviet power generation compensated for its losses by abandoning summer preventive repairs to equipment in thermal electric power stations and GES's. The American WALL STREET JOURNAL, for example, claims that.

[Troitskiy] An absurd claim! Of course, such an idea might have occurred to someone during the feverish activity of the first days. But such decisions are not made in haste. And a sober and calm calculatioin convincingly proved that the power stations would not last the winter without preventive repairs to equipment. Therefore, summer preventive work was carried out in the same volumes as in previous years. And the country's power stations are working normally today in the severest frosts.

[Telen] Does this mean that we can consider that the power workers' greatest difficulties are already behind them?

[Troitskiy] Let us hope so... Although it would be arrogant to say that all is ideal in the country's power generation. It is necessary both to enhance production discipline and to improve labor organization. And there are plenty of other problems, albeit not so acute ones. It is extremely necessary to solve them. Under the cold winter conditions now, for example, power stations quickly eat into their fuel stocks. However, the State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products already owes power workers hundreds of thousands of metric tons of fuel oil. The Ministry of Railways is holding up the dispatch of fuel for power stations. Unfortunately, having overcome the greatest objective difficulties, we still cannot cope with the unobliging nature of these developments. Whether we power workers will be able to pass the test of strength now depends directly on them.

COLD CONTINUES TO STRAIN ENERGY SUPPLIES

LD131353 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] The severe frosts of recent days have become a serious test for the country's fuel and energy complex. Intensive work is going on in all industries; businesslike, smooth operation is being maintained. Fuel consumption at thermal power stations has increased by 25 percent over the past few days. Related industries are helping out. The USSR State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products has increased fuel oil supplies by 106,000 metric tons. As yet, the heat and power plants of Leningrad, the stations in Estonia, and the heating plants in Archangel continue to be under strain. It is essential for coal miners to straighten out the situation at open-cast coal mines, which provides fuel for the Gusinoozersk GRES and the Chita TETS. The oil-processing works in Saratov, Nizhnekamsk, and Kuybyshev are not running smoothly. Snowdrifts on the roads are also disrupting the continual operation of the fuel conveyor. Oil and gas fields and arterial pipelines are working steadily at the maximum operating mode. An additional 80 million cubic meters of gas has already been supplied to enterprises and the population since the beginning of the year.

Do not forget, comrades, that economizing on electricity, heat, and water with all the means at one's disposal enhances the reliability and stability of the work of the country's power generating sector.

POWER MINISTRY URGES ECONOMICAL FUEL USE

LD131235 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Because of the heavy frosts plaguing almost the entire country, the Soviet Ministry of Power Engineering has urged consumers to be as economical as possible in using electricity, natural gas, and other fuel. People engaged in extracting fuel and in transporting it are experiencing a great pressure these days. Power plants need more gas and coal now. Railways have to carry additional trains with oil. [paragraph continues]

Unfortunately, weather forecasters do not predict substantial improvements in the next few days.

ROY MEDVEDEV VIEWS NEW PRIVATE ENTERPRISES LAW

PM071136 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 16 Dec 86 p 8

[Article by Soviet historian Roy Medvedev: "Major Turning Point in Soviet Union"]

[Text] A recent ordinary session of the Supreme Soviet approved a major and long due reform in our country's economic and social life. This law will become effective in May 1987, but our society would have benefited if it had been introduced 30 or even 50 years ago, since the pressing need for individual labor activity and its legal regulation have always existed in both capitalist and socialist societies.

The new law not only resolves many of the people's major problems but also generates many more. It is only the start of a legislative activity that will be continued within the context of the union's republics and that requires the adoption of many provisions by Gosplan, Gossnab, ministries and departments, and oblast and rayon soviets. However, the basic principles of the reform have been defined and approved by the Supreme Soviet in the law, whose importance it is difficult to overestimate.

It is still too early to talk about a modern version of the NEP (the New Economic Policy of the twenties). However, the new law does highlight the major changes in the new CPSU leadership's economic policy and economic awareness, together with several other important decisions affecting the economy and foreign trade -- such as the extension of the system of collective teams in industry and agriculture; the extension of family operations; the creation of joint enterprises, some with Western companies; the extension of the rights of collective enterprises, trades, and industries; the extension of truck farm cooperatives; and so forth.

Long obsolete economic and political dogmas are not being relinquished without doubts or struggles, and decisions are being made that will not only be accompanied by the acceleration of economic development but will also have major economic, social, and political consequences. Although local soviets will be responsible for the authorization of individual labor activity, which must be renewed every 5 years, the state is in practice ceasing to be the sole employer in our country; and its influence on the population's social and economic life will decline somewhat. A new sector of society will emerge and spread in the country, in the form of small craftsmen, whose existence has hitherto been virtually ignored by our statistics and economic science.

The approval of the new law was preceded not only by lengthy discussions but also by a large accumulation of various kinds of difficulties and imbalances in the Soviet economy which together justify talking in terms of an outright economic crisis.

Of course, the nature of economic crises in the USSR is different from in the Western countries. Economic crises in our country are accompanied by a severe shortage of basic consumer goods and also a considerable shortage in labor force. Despite their relatively low incomes, the majority of workers and employees in the USSR have developed a huge demand for consumer goods that will continue to increase without being satisfied. This imbalance makes it impossible to develop various kinds of material incentives and increase the pay of groups of workers and employees whose incomes are in every respect lower than the rationally calculated minimum living standard.

It is commonly believed that the increased production of consumer goods in our country is basically a hindrance to the clear priority that the USSR has always given to the development of heavy industry, machine construction, defense, and, since the fifties, the aerospace industry. This is true, but only party so. Very major hindrances to the development of the production of consumer goods have been contituted by certain ideological and political principles and socioeconomic dogmas established in our country, that is, obstacles of a clearly subjective nature. Thus, for instance, our economic science has always exaggerated the priority of the major industrial enterprises and understimated the significance of small, local enterprises, which are so important for satisfying the population's needs.

It was long believed that state enterprises were more efficient and progressive than cooperative enterprises. This is why during the sixties in the countryside thousands of kolkhozes were reorganized into sovkhozes, while in the cities many cooperatives involved in the production and repair of technical equipment in daily use and other work ceased to exist. Additionally, not only economists but also government bodies often had a hostile attitude toward the various kinds of individual labor activity which, had it enjoyed organization and support, could have helped to satisfy many of the population's needs poorly or inadequately met by the work of state enterprises. I am not going to talk now about the possibility that individual labor activity could lessen the unsatisfied demand for consumer goods, add further items of revenue to the state budget, and attract to useful labor activity millions of people who are now unable for various reasons to work in the state enterprises. There will be an improvement in the material conditions of those now working on their own or as members of associations and of those who enjoy the results of their work.

New NEP [subhead]

I am going to talk now about the emergence and development of many talented people, about the unexpected discoveries and improvements that could be used in state industry. On two occasions the large-scale use of individual labor activity has already helped our country and our economy at difficult times. During the period of 1922-1928 this activity was, if not the only, then definitely the chief component of the NEP, which virtually saved the young Soviet republic from economic and political collapse and made it possible within a relatively short period to return to and even transcend the pre-war economic level.

I am not going to talk now about the forced suppression of the NEP in the years 1929-30, which was one of the grossest mistakes of Stalin's economic policy. There is just one thing that I would like to point out: During the years of World War II, when almost all factories began working to meet the requirements of the war and the Army and when nonmilitary production virtually ground to a halt, tens of millions of Soviet citizens turned precisely to individual work in the evenings and their free time to produce goods at home and in small workshops -- without which people's normal life would have been extremely difficult or even impossible. During those years, in all the major cities Sunday markets appeared where people sold and bartered both new and used goods. The state authorities published no legal provisions in this connection and charged no taxes, but neither did they ban this individual labor activity which appeared spontaneously.

Of course we are not now living in a period of war or of post-war destruction. Our industry produces thousands of products that were nonexistent 40 or 50 years ago, though now it is difficult to imagine our daily life without them. Life has become more complicated and people as a whole have begun to lead better lives. Their needs and opportunities have become more complicated. Individual labor activity is now becoming an important means of improving and facilitating the people's daily lives.

The new law is designed first and foremost to regulate individual labor activity in sectors where it was already permitted but took place at an extremely slow pace owing to the high taxes, the contemptuous attitude of local government bodies, or the vagueness of the regulations. The activities concerned are certain kinds of private medical practices, deressmaking, home leasing, private teaching, typing, the manufacture of souvenirs, and so forth.

Second, the new law -- and this is particularly important -- legalizes individual labor activity in the sectors where it was hitherto legally forbidden, though it did exist illegally, since the existing bans conflicted with the interests of those who offered the population certain kinds of goods and services and those who enjoyed these goods and services.

Thus, for instance, it will be permitted to carry out the improvement and construction of country houses and garages, home modernization, and the repair of electrical fixtures. It is permitted to manufacture gardening and horticultural tools and to open beauty and hairdressing salons and private photographic studios. Owners of private cars can provide a public transport service and use the services of skilled mechanics to repair their cars. Small craftsmen can sell their goods outside their own district or city.

Small Enterprises [subhead]

Third, the new law permits individual activities to be conducted not only during leisure time or as a complement to work in a state enterprise but also as the principal activity, with permission to use the help of family members, to employ apprentices, and to establish small associations and cooperatives. State organizations and local soviets can lease premises to these associations; financial bodies can lend them money; and industrial enterprises can supply them with the necessary materials. These decisions of the Supreme Soviet provide the opportunity to establish small enterprises on a private and cooperative basis that hitherto existed neither in the countryside nor in the cities, despite the very great need for them.

It may be assumed that the new law was the subject of several discussions, reflected at the Supreme Soviet session. Not long ago the Interior Ministry bodies drew up a series of strict measures against owners of private cars who used them as taxis. Matters such as taxes, on crafstmen, dressmakers, typists, private medical practitioners, and so forth, have not yet been resolved. But it can already be said that the new law has been well received by the large majority of the country's population.

The law eliminates the ugly concept of "unearned income" that was the cause of many absurd distortions and that was an insult to the citizens' common sense. The new law is of great benefit to the whole state, since it enables it to free all state organizations and enterprises of many of the minor problems and worries that could be resolved more easily, better, and quicker through individual labor activity and a direct agreement between producer and consumer. Obviously the new law does not resolve all our problems. But it is an example of the resolute rejection of the dogmatic conceptions of socialism -- an example that it would make sense to follow in many other fields of the USSR's economic, social, and political life.

VOROTNIKOV SPEAKS ON CURRENT RSFSR PLEDGES

LD130930 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1990 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Summary] The socialist pledges of the working people of the RSFSR for 1987 were discussed today at the session of the RSFSR Councilof Ministers Presidium. Vladimir Nazarov reports:

[Nazarov] Discussion of the current pledges was more than ever before thoughtful, critical and almost too detailed at times. It was obvious that the current pledges of the RSFSR differ from all previous ones in being directed at the social sphere. More houses, clinics, nursery schools, and stadiums are to be commissioned and more consumer goods produced this year. Siberia and the Far East are to receive most resources.

Particular attention was given to accelerating scientific and technological progress in industry and on construction sites to improving yields from each shift and from equipment.

"Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov, taking the chair today, emphasized that the pledges must reflect the spirit of the 27th CPSU Congress. And this refers not only to figures for higher indicators but also innovatory work methods and economic management systems. For instance, three RSFSR ministries already supply consumers through the State Acceptance Service."

Last year, the republic attained average rates for the 5-year plan. They are to be still higher this year, and in this way, by the end of the 5-year plan the targets will be exceeded.

'BELORUSSION EXPERIMENT' ON RAILROADS VIEWED

LD122021 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1650 GMT 12 Jan 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The country's railwaymen are to eliminate arrears in the transportation of coal, ore, timber, and other national economy goods which have accumulated since the start of the year. [passage omitted] [video report by A. Kozhukova shows moving train, snow-clearing, and loading operations]

[Kozhukova] The Belorussian experiment is getting underway. It provides dramatic growth in labor productivity with a reduction of the number of workers. This year it will be applied everywhere. But, as shown by practice, that process has its own problems as well. [video cuts to an interview by Kozhukhova with I.A. Shinkevich, chairman of the Trade Union Central Committee, identified by caption]

[Shinkevich] When developing and preparing that experiment, we saw the following as basic and essential conditions of its implementation: ensuring the safety of railway traffic, ensuring the protection of labor, ensuring adherence to labor legislation when reducing numbers of workers, and ensuring their employment.

However, as shown by the practical experience of implementing the experience of the Belorussian railway at a number of other railroads, those basic, foundation-laying principles of implementing that experience of the Belorussian railway were not treated seriously enough. The fact that the release of workers takes place in most cases through combining jobs, expanding service zones, making rates of output tougher, and a very small number of workers being released owing to the implementation of new machinery, automation, and the mechanization of production processes, causes special concern.

REGULATIONS ON JOINT ENTERPRISES PUBLISHED

LD131901 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- TASS economic observer Boris Bubnov writes:

Representatives of the Western business circles have received the answers to questions that interested them over the past months and that are connected with the possibility of setting up joint enterprises on the territory of the USSR.

The provisions for a procedure for setting up joint enterprises with foreign partners in the USSR and all aspects of their operation have been endorsed and went into effect on January 1, 1987. They were set out in detail in the daily Moscow publication "ECOTASS", the economic and commercial bulletin of the Soviet news agency TASS.

The rate of the tax on the profits, the only tax on joint enterprises has, specifically, become known. It amounts to 30 per cent. The part of the profit which, on the decision of an enterprise's board, is reinvested to expand and modernise production, is chancelled for scientific and technological developments or is transferred to the reserve fund of the enterprise, is exempt from taxation.

A foreign partner in a joint enterprise can transfer abroad in currency the profit due to him after the deduction of the tax. He is to pay the dues amounting to 20 per cent of the sum transferred, unless corresponding inter-governmental agreements stipulate it differently.

At the same time, the possibility of transferring currency abroad is limited by the presence on the accounts of a joint enterprise of the currency received as a result of export. Thus, the export of products is a condition for receiving profits that is indispensable for a foreign partner. This might restrict somewhat the number of Western firms striving to participate in the creation of a joint enterprise on the territory of the USSR. This will be characteristic of the firms which viewed the new form of cooperation only as a means of putting their products on a huge Soviet market.

Foreign firms which will become parters of Soviet organizations in joint enterprises will come up against various discriminatory restrictions of tariff and non-tariff nature applied to Soviet goods when they will be exporting their products to a number of Western countries, and possibily, even when they will be putting their products on sale in their own countries. On the other hand, in setting up joint enterprises, Soviet organisations, just as their partners among foreign firms, must be confident that the existing bans on the supplies of science-intensive equipment to the USSR will not affect their purchases in Western countries of the joints and components they need.

Therefore, the elimination of commercial barriers and discriminatory restrictions of every kind on trade with the Soviet Union, the admission of the USSR to GATT would promote the improvement of international economic relations and would suit the interests of foreign firms, potential participants in joint enterprises.

FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS INSTITUTE SET UP

LD121410 Moscow TASS in English 1401 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- A research institute of foreign economic relations has been set up in Moscow to study the world market and marketing issues.

Its director, Professor Igor Faminskiy (Economics), told a TASS correspondent that the scientific center owed its founding to the current re-organization of the country's system of foreign economic activities and would help the effort.

The institute's goal, he said, would be to increase the role of the Soviet Union, which at the moment is responsible for some 20 percent of global industrial production, in world trade.

More than 20 Soviet ministries and 70 major factories and industrial amalgamations in the USSR this year have been granted the right to deal directly with the external market, with the Ministry of Foreign Trade retaining its general supervisory function.

The institute will function under the USSR Council of Ministers' State Foreign Economic Commission which was formed recently to oversee the foreign economic activities of different ministries and departments.

The institute is expected to provide scientifically-grounded practical recommendations and proposals on concrete problems of foreign economic activities and ways of improving the export and import patterns.

One of the first topics studied by its staff include prospects for efficient joint ventures involving foreign capital in this country. Such businesses are envisaged in a decision of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers.

SHORTCOMINGS IDENTIFIED AT MOSCOW WORKS

LD092345 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 9 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report by L. Khatayevich from the Red Proletarian Works in Moscow]

[Excerpt] [Khatayevich] The first working week of the year here at the Moscow Red Proletarian Works unfortunately did not bring with it the joy of high results. Fifty percent of the numerically controlled machine-tools were returned by the State Acceptance Service for completion. What is this -- a relapse? After all, at the end of last year, on first showing, the machine builders passed 80 percent of their output. [video shows interior of enterprise with workers speaking at their lathes and operating on their machines]

[S.N. Sergeyev, deputy director in charge of quality -- identified from screen caption] This was not unexpected by us, since on 1 January we once again significantly sharpened up the rules of acceptance; we sharpened up control. We are introducing a new methodical approach.

[Khatayevich] However, the first contact with output by the staff of the State Committee for Standards, in the middle of last year, proved to be a near-catastrophe for the works: more than 100 rejected machine tools; R9 million removed from the plan; a completely new level in the requirement of the quality of products. Not that much time has passed since then, but the collective has found strength in itself in order to quickly restructure. The work was done in parallel -- the improvement in the design of the machine-tools and the improvement of the technology, the introduction into production of both the former and the latter. In order to understand how responsibility for quality has grown at the Red Proletarian -- just have a look. [video shows long hall packed with machine-tools or test stands]

Formerly at the works, they got by with just 70 stands for testing machine-tools. Now there are twice as many. The psychology, people's attitude to work on hand and at all levels, has changed. [passage omitted]

MEETING DISCUSSES FARM WORK PREPARATIONS

LD132038 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] A conference took place in the CPSU Central Committee on 12 January. Concrete measures were discussed to ensure timely preparations for fulfilling the growing volume of field work in the coming spring.

It was noted that winter crops have not been fully sown in certain regions, primarily due to insufficient moisture. The situation remains tense in the supply of water to irrigated land in the Central Asian republics and southern Kazakhstan. The ministries and departments and the country's agro-industrial bodies are not doing everything they can for the future harvest. In a number of places preparations of seeds for sowing is proceeding unsatisfactorily; the rate and quality of equipment repair remain low.

Those who spoke at the conference reported on the measures underway which will make it possible, in the optimum time, to carry out the increasing volume of spring field work in connection with the possible loss of winter crops. [passage omitted]

The importance of consistent and coordinated work by ministries and departments and enterprises subordinate to them and which supply the countryside with industrial products was stressed.

The USSR State Planning Committee and the organizations involved are instructed to urgently review the unresolved questions and to render practical aid to agriculture. Taking part in the work of the conference were Comrades Talyzin and Nikonov.

Ligachev Remarks Cited

LD131648 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Here is a brief report on the conference at the CPSU Central Committee which was held on 12 January:

The conference discussed specific measures to ensure timely preparation for the fulfillment of the growing volume of field work in the coming spring.

Summing up the results of the conference, Comrade Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out the exceptional importance of the implementation by the central bodies and locally of the whole set of measures to prepare a timely and qualitative spring sowing as a basis for providing stability to the development of the country's food complex. There is nothing trivial in the implementation of this responsible economic and political campaign. The efforts of all party organizations, local municipal and economic bodies must be concentrated on this.

Attention was paid to the necessity of providing effective help to kolkhozes and sovkhozes which are lagging behind. Taking part in the conference were Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Comrade Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

TUVA LIVESTOCK FARMS 'ILL-PREPARED' FOR WINTER

LD122049 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Many livestock farms in Tuva are ill-prepared for the harsh winter. Because of a lack of fodder, badly maintained buildings, and lax discipline among the workers, the productivity of milk herds is low in most of the farms of the autonomous republic, and murrain among the flocks is not rare. Teli sovkhoz did not manage to repair the doors of the barns and the sheepyards or to put glass in the windows before the winter. But none of this bothers the local trade union committee in the least -- it has come to terms with this position and has taken no stepts to influence the leadership of the sovkhoz. Not enough fodder has been brought in either, and because of this all the animals have lost considerable weight. In just the last 2 weeks more than 300 sheep have died on the farm. The condition of the cattle is no better in the Baytal, Terekhol, and Shekpe-er sovkhozes. Meanwhile, however, there are good examples in Tuva. (Safonov), a Hero of Socialist Labor from the Plamya Revolyutsii sovkhoz, together with his son, has concluded an agreement with the farm for the upkeep of 650 ewes. Without excessive help, they have repaired the winter quarters and laid in fodder. But the trouble is that in the autonomous republic less than one-third of the shepherds have switched to contracting, and even fewer milkmaids and herdsmen.

Emergency steps are being taken now: additional fodder is being urgently transported to outlying districts, and shock detachments are being sent to the aid of the farm workers. Roads are being thrust through the deep snow to the winter quarters, and to this end combined columns of machine operators have arrived.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 5-7 JAN REPORTED

LD080210 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 5-7 January. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

5-6 Jan -- No fileworthy reports.

7 Jan
Irtyshanka-10, a new wheat strain, will be sown on 10,000 hectares in Kokchetav Oblast in the spring. As distinct from the strain currently under cultivation, Saratovskaya-29, the Irtyshanka is resilient to flattening, has high yields, and can be sown early or late. During the current 5-year plan, the new wheat strain will be grown on an area of some 100,000 hectares. [1430]